



SPIRIT & WISDOM

Acts 6:8 – 7:60

Terms:

1. Synagogue (6:9)

❖ Tabernacle – Ex 25:8-9 portable worship centre

❖ Temple – 1 Kings 5. Built by King Solomon, destroyed (2Chr 36:19) in 587BC, rebuilt, destroyed by the Romans in 70AD

❖ Synagogue – “regional” gathering place

2. Sanhedrin (6:15) Group of 71 priests with authority in religious, political & legal areas

It was coming to this:

- + 2:13 Ridicule
- + 4:3-22 Watch-house & warning
- + 5:17-25 Prison & miraculous release
- + 5:26-42 Arrested and beaten
- + 6:8-60 Tried and killed
- + Answer: we live for God, not people (4:19; 5:29)

Stephen's resume:

Matthias chosen from 120, now there are over 5,000 to choose from! Not everyone measured up...

- ✓ 6:3 “full of the Spirit & wisdom”
- ✓ 6:5 “full of faith & the Holy Spirit”
- ✓ 6:8 “full of God’s grace & power”
- ✓ 6:15 “face like the face of an angel”

The events:

- ✓ V8 – Stephen's ministry
- ✓ VV9-10 – Stephen challenged, debates
- ✓ VV 11-14 – Stephen set up
- ✓ VV 15, 1 – The charge
- ✓ VV 2-53 – His defence
- ✓ VV 54-60 Sentenced to death, carried out (See *Jn 16:2*)

Stephen's response: (7:2-53)

- ❖ Title: “Him we proclaim!”
- ❑ Bible based – *Abraham, Moses, David*
- ❑ Christ centred – *Jesus (52)*
- ❑ Life changing – *challenged (51-53)*

From “Sanhedrin” to “sanctified”

x Sanhedrin: self-absorbed, no eternal hope, **OR**

✓ *Pattern for discipleship – Bible, Christ, transformation!*

- ☑ Bible based
- ☑ Christ-centred
- ☑ Life transformation
- ☑ Pay the price



The Cost of Discipleship:

1. Disciples making disciples *who make disciples*
2. Keep the main thing the main thing
3. First things first (then reach...)
4. Who/what are you willing to die for?
(Gal 2:20)