

## **“Rebellion, Captivity, Restoration, & Ultimate Betrayal!”**

**Acts 7:42-53**

**Stephen Continued, “Then God turned and gave them up to worship the host of heaven, as it is written in the Book of the Prophets: ‘Did you offer me slaughtered animals and sacrifices during forty years in the wilderness, O House of Israel’ You also took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, images which you made to worship; and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.’ Our Fathers had the Tabernacle of Witness in the wilderness, as He (God) appointed, instructing Moses to make it according to the pattern that he had seen, which Our Fathers, having received it in turn, also brought with Joshua into the land possessed by the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of Our Fathers until the days of David, who found favor before God and asked to find a dwelling for the God of Jacob. But Solomon built Him a house. However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the Prophet Says: ‘Heaven Is My Throne, and Earth Is My Footstool. What house will you build for Me? Says the Lord, Or what is the place of My Rest? Has My Hand not made all these things?’ You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as Your Fathers did, so do you. Which of the Prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of Whom you now have become the Betrayers & Murders, who have received the Law by the Direction of Angels & have not kept it.”**

**Acts 7:42-53 (NKJV)**

**Q: “What Were The Supposed Evil & Crimes That Stephen Had Done?”**

**A: Blaspheming - Speaking Untruths Concerning:**

- 1) Interpretation of Scripture (God’s Word)**
- 2) Title of Prophet (Given By God To Moses)**
- 3) Temple & Traditions (Significance & Sacredness)**
- 4) Commandments (Covenant Of The Law)**

**A: Insurrection, Desecration, & Heresy Concerning:**

- 1) Temple Mount**
  - 2) Religious Authority Of Priests & Sanhedrin Council**
  - 3) Heretical & Profane Teaching**
- Jesus of Nazareth – Son of Man**  
**Christ / Messiah – Son of God**

**Stephen Begins His Defense By Going Back To God’s Prophetic Word Concerning God’s Direct Involvement In The History Of Humanity!**

**Stephen Teaches**

- 1) That God Is To Be Obeyed At Any Cost.**
- 2) That We Need To Be Ready To Respond To God’s Leading.**
- 3) That We Need To Be Pliable In Mind, Spirit, & Body To Follow His Direction, & Not Tradition Or Our Own Understanding!**

**Stephen’s Defense Of The Gospel Highlights God’s Direction, Will, & Intervention With Humanity In History Around A Theme:**

**“God’s Plan & Purpose, Calling & Covenantal Promise To Send A Deliverer, Prophet & Messiah!”**

**Stephen's Defense Of The Gospel Highlights God's Direction, Will,  
& Intervention With Humanity In History Concerning:**

- 1) Fall, Sin, & Purpose of the Law.
- 2) Role of the Priesthood.
- 3) Purpose Of The Temple & The True Worship of God.
- 4) Mission of The Coming Messiah To Set All People Free!

**Stephen's Defense - Our Ultimate Betrayal & Idolatrous Spirit "Selfish & Self-Centeredness"  
Our Pagan Worship & Abandonment Of True Faith & Exhortation Of False Belief & Teaching Instead**

Stephen Continued, "Then God turned and gave them up to worship the host of heaven, as it is written in the *Book of the Prophets*: 'Did you offer me slaughtered animals and sacrifices during forty years in the wilderness, O House of Israel' You also took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, images which you made to worship; and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.'" Acts 7:42-43

**Q: "Who Is This Prophet In The 'Book of the Prophets'?"**

**A: Amos 5:25-26**

"Did you offer *Me* sacrifices and offerings In the wilderness forty years, O House of Israel? You also carried Sikkuth your king And Chiun, your idols, the star of your gods, which you made for yourselves."

**Q: "Who Are The 'Host of Heaven'?"**

**A: They Are False Gods Of Heaven & Earth Whose Representations Exist As Planets, Comets, & Stars In The Heavens & Idols & Statues On The Earth**

**Q: "Who Is Moloch (Molekh & Melekh)?"**

**A: Cultic God Worshipped Among The Rings Of Saturn (Hexagram)  
Perverting The Meaning Of The Sabbath Day – Saturday**

**Reason For Sacrifice & Worship**

**A: "To Offer A Sacrificial Unblemished Lamb In Exchange  
For Your Adulterous Shame To The God of Fire in The Abyss"**

**Q: "Who Is Remphan (Romphan & Rempu)?"**

**A: Cultic God Worshipped Among The Stars Of Heaven  
A Perversion Of The Star Of David By Substituting The Goat Headed Pagan God  
In The Center Of The Star Formation Rather Than The Tabernacle Of The Witness  
(See Numbers Chapter 2 – Star Of David Battle Formation)**

**\*See Slide Of Two Camps – In The Appendix On The Last Page\***

**Reason For Sacrifice & Worship**

**A: "To Offer Up Your Lust For The Gods Of Heaven & One Another  
In An Adulterous Spiritual Affair Within The Worship Of The Tabernacle"**

**Stephen's Defense – God's Presence & Might "Protection & Power"**

"Our Fathers had the *Tabernacle of Witness* in the wilderness, as He (God) appointed, instructing Moses to make it according to the pattern that he had seen, which Our Fathers, having received it in turn, also brought with Joshua into the land possessed by the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of Our Fathers until the days of David, who found favor before God and asked to find a dwelling for the God of Jacob." Acts 7:44-46

**Stephen's Defense – God's Presence & Authority "Holiness & King - Lord"**

*"But Solomon built Him a house. However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the Prophet Says: 'Heaven Is My Throne, and Earth Is My Footstool. What house will you build for Me? Says the Lord, Or what is the place of My Rest? Has My Hand not made all these things'?"*

Acts 7:47-50

**Q: "Who Is This Prophet?"**

**A: Isaiah 66:1-2a**

Thus, says the Lord: *"Heaven is My Throne, and Earth is My Footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My Rest? For all those things My Hand has made, and all those things exist!"*

**Stephen's Defense – On Our Rebellious & Selfish Nature "Fallen Nature & Sin"**

*"You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as Your Fathers did, so do you. Which of the Prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of Whom you now have become the Betrayers & Murders, who have received the Law by the Direction of Angels & have not kept it."*

Acts 7:51-53

**Remember All The Accusations Brought Against Stephen!**

**A: Blaspheming - Speaking Untruths Concerning:**

- 1) Interpretation of Scripture (God's Word)**
- 2) Title of Prophet (Given By God To Moses)**
- 3) Temple & Traditions (Significance & Sacredness)**
- 4) Commandments (Covenant Of The Law)**

**A: Insurrection, Desecration, & Heresy Concerning:**

- 1) Temple Mount**
  - 2) Religious Authority Of Priests & Sanhedrin Council**
  - 3) Heretical & Profane Teaching**
- Jesus of Nazareth – Son of Man  
Christ / Messiah – Son of God

**Stephen Has Laid Instead The Foundation For**

*"A Promise, A Covenant, & A Vision Of A Future Deliverer.  
And Although That Deliverer Is A Learned Prince Of Egypt,  
He Is Also A Warrior Recluse Running From God, His Calling, & His People.  
But God Provides His Own Presence, His Prophet, His Deliverer, & His Provision.  
However, His Own People Continue To Act In A Spirit Of Betrayal, Idolatry,  
False Teaching, & Rebellion Against The God Who Has Saved Them.*

*However, God's People Continued Rebellion  
Has Led To Captivity, Restoration, & Ultimate Betrayal  
Of God's One True Prophet, Priest, King, & Messiah!"*

**Therefore, Let Us Do The Same Today & Tomorrow!**

***"Let Us Rise Now & Pray & Re-Commit Ourselves Today  
To Follow The Example Of Stephen!"***

## APPENDIX

### Worship of Heaven **Vs.** Worship of Yahweh

