

THE FIRST MARTYR – ACTS 7

INTRODUCTION: This chapter is the turning point in Israel's _____. It records the third notable murder of the nation ... the final _____ of the kingdom.

1. John the Baptist
2. Christ
3. Stephen

I: GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM – 1-8

1. God promised the Jews a _____ and a _____ (Genesis 13:14-18 and chapters 15 and 17).
2. Because of _____ they lost possession of the _____ and failed to receive their _____.
3. When will this covenant with Abraham be fulfilled? _____
_____.

II: ISRAEL'S REJECTION OF JOSEPH – 9-19 (Joseph ... a wonderful picture of Christ)

1. Was _____ of his father (Genesis 37:3; Matthew 3:17)
2. Was _____ by his brethren (Genesis 37:4-8; John 15:25)
3. They _____ him (Genesis 37:11; Mark 15:10)
4. He was _____ for the price of a _____ (Genesis 37:28; Matthew 26:15)
5. Humbled as a _____ (Genesis 39:1ff; Philippians 2:5ff)
6. Was _____ accused (Genesis 39:16-18; Matthew 26:59-60)
7. Exalted to _____ (Genesis 41:14ff; Philippians 2:9-10)
8. Not _____ by his _____ the first time (Genesis 42:8; Acts 3:17)
9. Revealed himself to them the _____ time (Genesis 45:1ff; Acts 7:13; Zechariah 12:10)
10. While rejected by his brethren he took a _____ bride (Genesis 41:45; Acts 15:6-18)

Stephen's argument is that the _____ treated Christ the way the _____ treated Joseph.

III: ISRAEL'S REJECTION OF MOSES – 20-41 (Moses ... a striking picture of Christ)

1. Persecuted and almost _____ when a child (Exodus 1:22, 4:19; Matthew 2:13-20)

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2. Refused the _____ that he might save his people (Hebrews 11:24-26; Matthew 4:8-10; 2 Corinthians 8:9)
3. Rejected the _____ time when he tried to help them (Exodus 7:25-28; Isaiah 53:3)
4. Became a _____ (Exodus 3:1; John 10)
5. Took a _____ bride during his rejection (Exodus 2:21)
6. Received by his brethren the _____ time (Exodus 4:29-31; Acts 7:35)
7. Delivered the people from bondage through the _____ the _____ (Exodus 12; I Peter 2:24)

IV: ISRAEL'S REJECTION OF THE PROPHETS – 42-50

1. The _____ and _____ rebellions and disobedience of the people.
2. They have had the most amazing _____.
3. They have _____ God. The Temple should have been their greatest _____, but became their greatest _____.
4. They are charged with _____ the prophets, then with _____ the Son of God Himself.

V: ISRAEL'S JUDGMENT SEALED – 51-60

1. When John the Baptist was slain, they rejected the Father Who had _____ John to prepare the way for _____.
2. When they crucified Christ, they _____ the Son.
3. Now in _____ Stephen, they _____ the Holy Spirit.

CONCLUSION: Note the spirit of Stephen in the last verse.

Chorus: To be like Jesus
To be like Jesus
All I ask, to be like Him
All through life's journey
From earth to glory
All I ask, to be like Him