

Evangelism in Acts
Stephen, Pt. 1

Recap

Purpose: To show the spread of the Church from Jerusalem to Rome under the authority of the Roman Empire

Author: Luke the physician, who wrote the Gospel of Luke.
Travelling companion of Paul.

Date: Probably 60 A.D., before Paul dies

Why are we studying it?

-We will be looking at speeches and messages in the book to help equip us with how to share the gospel.

Our purpose: Learn how the early church talked about the gospel so we can learn what we should focus on.

Acts 6:8-15

Who is Stephen?

A deacon – διακονεω – means “to serve”
-man full of wisdom and the Spirit

What is his role in the church? (see 6:1-5)

To serve tables. To serve during the distribution of food.
Makes sure the right people receive food. To develop the proper structure to make sure people aren't overlooked.

Why is Stephen persecuted?

People thought he was hating on Moses and the Law.
Thought he was against the temple.

Why is Stephen misunderstood?

Christ gave freedom from the Law, which they took to be as anti-Law.

Thought the fulfillment of the Law meant he was anti-Moses

Associated false reality with what Stephen was attempting to say

What can we learn from this passage and apply to our lives?

Following God does not guarantee positive results.

Evil people respond with evil actions

We are going to face false accusations and must be ready to explain ourselves.

Being a table waiter doesn't make us insignificant