

**The Acts of the Apostles I**  
***The Rejection of Stephen's Message***  
**Acts 7:1-60**

- I. THE FOUNDING OF ISRAEL (Acts 7:1-8)
    - A. The Call to Canaan (Acts 7:1-4; Genesis 12:1-5)
    - B. The Covenant of Promise (Acts 7:5-7; Genesis 15:13-21)
    - C. The Covenant of Circumcision (Acts 7:8; Genesis 17:9-14)
  
  - II. THE PRESERVATION OF ISRAEL (Acts 7:9-16)
    - A. The Providence of God (Acts 7:9-10; Genesis 45:5-8; Genesis 50:20; Psalm 76:10)
    - B. The Poverty of Israel (Acts 7:11-13)
    - C. The Provision of God (Acts 7:14-16)
  
  - III. THE DELIVERANCE OF ISRAEL (Acts 7:17-38)
    - A. Moses Protected (Acts 7:17-21)
      - i. The Persecution of Israel (Acts 7:18-19)
      - ii. The Birth of Moses (Acts 7:20; Exodus 2:2; Hebrews 11:23)
      - iii. The preservation of Moses (Acts 7:21) – Christ (Matthew 2:13-14)
  
    - B. Moses Prepared (Acts 7:22) – Christ (Luke 2:51-52)
    - C. Moses Rejected (Acts 7:23-29)
      - i. His defence of Israel (Acts 7:23-24)
      - ii. His rejection by Israel (Acts 7:25-28) – Christ (John 1:11)
- John 1:11** He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
- iii. His Escape from Egypt (Acts 7:29)
  
  - D. Moses Called (Acts 7:30-35)
    - i. The burning bush (Acts 7:30-31)
    - ii. The voice of the Lord (Acts 7:32-33)

- iii. The return to Israel (Acts 7:34-35) – Christ (Acts 1:11; Matthew 25:13; Matthew 19:28-30)

E. Moses Blessed (Acts 7:36-38)

- i. Bringing Israel out of Egypt (Acts 7:36) – Christ (Romans 11:26)

**Romans 11:26** And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, **There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer**, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

- ii. Becoming a type of Christ (Acts 7:37; Deuteronomy 18:15, 18; Acts 3:22-23)

**Deuteronomy 18:15** The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, **like unto me**; unto him ye shall hearken;

**Deuteronomy 18:18** I will raise them up a **Prophet** from among their brethren, **like unto thee**, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

- iii. Leading the church in the wilderness (Acts 7:38a; Exodus 35:1; cp. Acts 14:27) – *church*: “a called-out assembly”

**Exodus 35:1** And Moses gathered **all the congregation** of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These *are* the words which the LORD hath commanded, that *ye* should do them.

- iv. Receiving the lively oracles (Acts 7:38b; Romans 3:1-2) – *oracles*: “the spoken or dictated word of God”

**Romans 3:1** What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit *is there* of circumcision? **2** Much every way: chiefly, because that **unto them were committed the oracles of God**.

IV. THE HARDNESS OF ISRAEL (Acts 7:39-53)

A. The Golden Calf (Acts 7:39-41)

- i. Their hearts toward Egypt (Acts 7:39-40; Exodus 32:1)
- ii. The work of their own hands (Acts 7:41; Isaiah 2:8)

B. God’s Rejection (Acts 7:42-43; Romans 1:24, 26, 28)

- i. The host of heaven (Acts 7:42; 2 Kings 17:16; Jeremiah 19:13)
- ii. The tabernacle of Molech (Acts 7:43; Amos 5:26; Numbers 16:24-27)

iii. The star of Remphan (Acts 7:43)

C. The Tabernacle of Witness (Acts 7:44-50)

- i. In the wilderness (Acts 7:44; Exodus 25:40; Hebrews 8:5)
- ii. In the land (Acts 7:45-46; cp. Hebrews 4:7-9)
- iii. Solomon's temple (Acts 7:47-50; Isaiah 66:1-2)

D. The Rebellion of the Jews (Acts 7:51-53)

- i. Their resistance to the Holy Ghost (Acts 7:51; Isaiah 63:9-10)
- ii. Their persecution of the prophets (Acts 7:52; 2 Chronicles 36:16; Matthew 23:34-35)
- iii. Their slaying of the Just One (Acts 7:52; Acts 3:14-15)
- iv. Their inability to keep the law (Acts 7:53; Galatians 3:19)

V. THE REJECTION OF ISRAEL (Acts 7:54-60)

A. The Conviction of the Jews (Acts 7:54; Acts 5:33)

B. The Testimony of Stephen (Acts 7:55-56)

- i. Full of the Holy Ghost (Acts 7:55)
- ii. Seeing Jesus standing (Acts 7:56; cp. Colossians 3:1)

C. The Stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:57-60)

- i. The violence of the mob (Acts 7:57)
- ii. The first mention of Saul (Acts 7:58; Acts 8:1-3)
- iii. The last words of Stephen (Acts 7:59-60)
  1. Words of surrender (Acts 7:59)
  2. Words of compassion (Acts 7:60)