Stoned for Explaining Mysteries of Jesus

Acts Chapter 7

Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, expound on the historical timeline, journeys, and genealogies of the Nation of Israel!

It seems he used this approach to explain to his accusers the meaning of the claims he spoke concerning Jesus? The temple priests and counsel leaders considered him (Stephen) as big a threat to their society and offense to God as Jesus, and stoned him to death because of it; thinking they were approved of the LORD God!

- Act 7:1 Then said the high priest, Are these things so?
- Act 7:2 And he (*Stephen*) said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran (*or Haran*),
- Act 7:3 And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.
- Act 7:4 Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran (*or Haran*): and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.
- Act 7:5 And he gave him none inheritance in it, no, not *so much as* to set his foot on: yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when *as yet* he had no child.
- Act 7:6 And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat *them* evil four hundred (400) years.
- Act 7:7 And the nation to whom they shall be in bondage will I judge, said God: and after that shall they come forth, and serve me in this place.
- Act 7:8 And he gave him the covenant of circumcision: and so *Abraham* begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth (8th) day; and Isaac *begat* Jacob; and Jacob *begat* the twelve (12) patriarchs.
- Act 7:9 And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him,
- Act 7:10 And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.
- Act 7:11 Now there came a dearth (*or famine*) over all the land of Egypt and Chanaan (*or Canaan*), and great affliction: and our fathers found no sustenance.
- Act 7:12 But when Jacob heard that there was corn in Egypt, he sent out our fathers first.
- Act 7:13 And at the second (2^{nd}) *time* Joseph was made known to his brethren; and Joseph's kindred was made known unto Pharaoh.
- Act 7:14 Then sent Joseph, and called his father Jacob to *him*, and all his kindred, threescore and fifteen (*or 75*) souls.
- Act 7:15 So Jacob went down into Egypt, and died, he, and our fathers,

- Act 7:16 And were carried over into Sychem, (*or Shechem*) and laid in the sepulchre that Abraham bought for a sum of money of the sons of Emmor (*or Hamor*) the father of Sychem.
- Act 7:17 But when the time of the promise drew nigh, which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt,
- Act 7:18 Till another king arose, which knew not Joseph.
- Act 7:19 The same dealt subtilly with our kindred, and evil entreated our fathers, so that they cast out their young children, to the end they might not live.
- Act 7:20 In which time Moses was born, and was exceeding fair, and nourished up in his father's house three (3) months:
- Act 7:21 And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.
- Act 7:22 And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.
- Act 7:23 And when he was full forty (40) years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.
- Act 7:24 And seeing one *of them* suffer wrong, he defended *him*, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:
- Act 7:25 For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not.
- Act 7:26 And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?
- Act 7:27 But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?
- Act 7:28 Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday?
- Act 7:29 Then fled Moses at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat two (2) sons.
- Act 7:30 And when forty (40) years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina (or Sinai) an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush.
- Act 7:31 When Moses saw *it*, he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to behold *it*, the voice of the Lord came unto him,
- Act 7:32 Saying, I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold (or understand the LORD God is speaking).
- Act 7:33 Then said the Lord to him, Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground.
- Act 7:34 I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.
- Act 7:35 This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send *to be* a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.
- Act 7:36 He brought them (*Israel*) out (*of Egypt*), after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty (*40*) years.

- Act 7:37 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear (see Deuteronomy 18:15 through 18:22).
- Act 7:38 This is he (of whom Moses was speaking), that was in the church (or congregation of Israel) in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him (Moses) in the mount Sina (from the burning bush), and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles (or commandments of God) to give unto us:
- Act 7:39 To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust *him* from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt,
- Act 7:40 Saying unto Aaron, Make us gods to go before us: for *as for* this Moses, which brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot *(or know)* not what is become of him.
- Act 7:41 And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.
- Act 7:42 Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty (40) years in the wilderness?
- Act 7:43 Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of *(the idol\false god)* Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan *(an Egyptian idol)*, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

The Tabernacle in the wilderness represented Jesus! And when the LORD God honored David, a man after His own heart, He built the Temple House "Jesus" of salvation forever! Refer to, "Thy Throne Forever" and "The Kinsman Redeemer" in "Definitions" section!

- Act 7:44 Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as he (*the LORD God*) had appointed, speaking unto Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had seen (*or God showed Moses on Mount Sinai*).
- Act 7:45 Which also our fathers that came after brought in with (this tabernacle representing) Jesus (even our LORD and savior then!) into the possession (Land of Canaan) of the Gentiles, whom God drave out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David;
- Act 7:46 Who found favour before God, and desired to find a tabernacle for the God of Jacob.
- Act 7:47 But Solomon built him (the LORD God) an house (Temple | Building).
- Act 7:48 Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet.
- Act 7:49 Heaven *is* my throne, and earth *is* my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what *is* the place of my rest?
- Act 7:50 Hath not my hand made all these things?
- Act 7:51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost (*or Holy Spirit*): as your fathers *did*, so *do* ye.
- Act 7:52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One (*Jesus*); of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers (of the Holy Temple; Jesus):
- Act 7:53 Who (*And you*) have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept *it*.

- Act 7:54 When they (*the temple priests and counsel leaders*) heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him (*Stephen*) with *their* teeth.
- Act 7:55 But he (*Stephen*), being full of the Holy Ghost (*or Holy Spirit*), looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,
- Act 7:56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.
- Act 7:57 Then they (*the temple priests and counsel leaders*) cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him (*Stephen*) with one accord,
- Act 7:58 And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him:* and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul (*later converted to Jesus, and become "Paul the Apostle"*).
- Act 7:59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon *God*, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.
- Act 7:60 And he (*Stephen*) kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Definitions

Thy Throne Forever – The eternal LORD and God of Creation made this promise of his eternal kingdom to King David. But New Testament Judeo – Christian Scriptures clearly explains that corruptible can not inherit incorruptible (*1 Corinthians 15:53 through 15:55*), because incorruptible is "forever". Thus, the obvious and natural question arises; "how is this promise the LORD God gave corruptible David, possible"? Throughout history no throne of man has continued more than a hand full of years, compared to all the time of recorded history; and the promise to David was for eternity! And so, the short answer to the question is, "by love; grace; mercy; regeneration\ resurrection; inheritance; Kinsman Redemption; sacrifice; and ... other works of the Lord Jesus Christ (Son of God 100%; son, and progeny of King David, who is 100% man)"!

The genealogy of the Lord Jesus Christ is given in the New Testament Book of Matthew Chapter 1(one). And we see that his genealogy traces through David, the Great King of Israel; the youngest son of Jesse, as is revealed in scriptures of Ruth Chapter 4, 1 Samuel Chapter 16, and 2 Samuel Chapter 7. Thus, the flesh and blood man Jesus, Messiah traces unto the man, Adam (no demonic hybrid, of any sorts was given, and can not claim, such a genealogy); and he, the man Adam was created of God in the image of God! Study again, Genesis 1:26 and 1:27 and John 10:1 through 10:18. Thus, the genealogy is proven, according to the Word of God; without sin or contamination of any sort!

But to see the complete (or full) answer of sacrificing, atoning and inheritance (of the LORD God; Jesus the Son, for his followers and believers) we must "diligently" study both, the Old and New Testament Judeo – Christian Bible Books; which is the Words of God given to us that we may know Him and His plans for the human race; no other

document(s) provide this! Do we not see in this how the LORD God of Creation leaves nothing to chance; and who else would you suppose could maintain such precise and factual records of the centuries?

Gen_18:14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah (at 90 years of age) shall have a son (Isaac).

<u>Jer 32:17</u> Ah <u>Lord GOD!</u> behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, *and* there is nothing too hard for thee:

<u>Jer_32:27</u> Behold, I am the <u>LORD</u>, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

Mat 19:26 But Jesus beheld *them*, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Mar 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

Mar_10:27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men *it is* impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Thus, the eternal LORD and God of Creation establish the final state of those <u>BELIEVERS</u> in Him to be eternally with God!

The Kinsman Redeemer – The LORD God instructed Moses to implement the principle describing the "Kinsman Redeemer" into the law and commandments to Israel. This speaks of one having much seeing his kinsman with little, or no means to help himself, even to the extent of not having what is needed to continue day to day living. And the kinsman with much "choose as his responsibility" to meet the redeeming needs of his kinsman (See Deuteronomy Chapter 15)!

The primary message of the Book of Ruth describes the Kinsman Redeemer through the relationship of Boaz and Ruth.

Obviously Boaz, the kinsman redeemer of Ruth is a type of the Lord Jesus Christ not only redeeming Israel at His first visitation in the world, but Jesus is the ultimate Kinsman Redeemer that redeems "whosoever will" unto the Father according to *John* 3:16!

Recall what the LORD God instructed Moses to write in Genesis 1:26 and 1:27:

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Bible researchers speculate this occurred about Six Thousand Two Hundred (6200) Years Ago: The Creation of Adam (Man in the image of God; never done before!? Thus, man is created one hundred (100) percent man, and akin to God!?)

But then Physical Life continued, without Life of the Spirit after the man, Adam sinned against God in disobedience– Genesis Chapter 3 forward ...

And so, relationship between God and man can be made right again; but only if there is a "Kinsman Redeemer" to complete the redemption!

In my mind the implication here spawns several questions as follows:

- There is no missing link between <u>any</u> prehistory creature and this man, Adam that is akin to God; <u>and therefore redeemable</u> (<u>or can be brought back!</u>)? Thus, the dog is not redeemable; there can be another one, but not the same one, ever! And so, any person <u>rejecting John 3:16</u> (<u>although redeemable</u>) achieve the unredeemable state as the dog? And the finality of their living shall be that of grass in the field, as described by Isaiah Chapter 40:6 through 40:8!
- Mat 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.
- Mat 15:26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.
- Mat 15:27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.
 - The Holy Spirit of God commanded manifestation of God the Son, Jesus in the flesh, whereby the fallen may become redeemed Son of Adam; and therefore akin to God? Thus, Jesus had to be (of necessity); one hundred (100) percent man, and one hundred (100) percent God?
 - No one shall ever compile a list of all the attributes of the Eternal Almighty God whereby it may be determined, how much of Himself God put in Adam, and therefore the human race?

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

• Is there anything too hard for the LORD, or is there anything impossible with the LORD God?

<u>Jer 32:17</u> Ah <u>Lord</u> GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, *and* there is nothing too hard for thee:

<u>Jer_32:27</u> Behold, I *am* the <u>LORD</u>, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

Mat 19:26 But Jesus beheld *them*, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

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Mar 10:27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men *it is* impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Mar_14:36 And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.

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