

Acts 7:1-60



CONNECT GROUPS

Next week we shall be starting the Introduction to the Life Course. Before you look at the passage, please share how you are feeling about doing this course and what you would like to get out of it. I would be grateful if someone could email me with the group's responses to help me gauge where people are at. You don't have to say who made which comments!

(There are quite a few questions. Please don't feel you have to answer them all, especially if you have already covered them in a previous question)

What does it say?

What are the 2 charges against Stephen?

How does Stephen answer them?

How had Israel blasphemed God by their attitude to the temple (v44-50)?

What does Stephen say is Israel's attitude to God's messenger in general and Moses in particular?

What characteristics of God are highlighted in his response to Israel's attitude and his dealings with Israel throughout their history?

Contrast the demeanour of Stephen and the crowd in verses 54-60. Who does Stephen remind you of in his dying?

What does it mean for me?

“Stephen was a reformer who transformed God's dealing with his people.” How would you respond to this statement?

What does it mean for us, positively and negatively, that God is not limited?

How can this shape, positively and negatively, how we speak about Jesus to others or what we require them to do?

How do we expect people are to respond to us if we are God's messengers? Why will they respond like this?

How do we see God's hidden hand at work in this section and how does it encourage us?