

The Book of Acts

Expendable

Acts 6:8 – Acts 8:1



Apostolate Bridge

Peter



Paul

Stephen

Evangelical Bridge

Jews in
Jerusalem



Gentiles of
the World

Stephen

Why was the early Church so effective?

1.- Unity

2.- Courage

3.- Total Involvement

4.- Content

5.- Disciplined

6.- Organized

Acts 6: 8-15

“Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. 9

Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. 10 But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke

11 Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, “We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God.”

12 So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. 13 They produced false witnesses, who testified, “This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. 1

14 For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.”

15 All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.”

Stephen's Features of Greatness

His Choosing (v. 3-5, 8)

His Character: (v. 5, 8)

1.- Full of Faith and the Holy Spirit
(v.5)

2.- Full of Grace and Power (v.8)

His Courage (v.9-14)

-v.13 (never ceases)

-v.9 (arose)

-v.9 (disputed)

-v.10 (couldn't handle)

-v.11 (secretly persuaded men)

-v.13 (knocking the temple, knocking the law)

His Countenance (v.15)

-The face of an angel

His Confession (v.7:2-53)

1.- Gain their Interest

2.- Defend Against Charge

3.- Indicts for Killing the Messiah

4.- Present the Messiah

Acts 7:54 – 8:1

54 “When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. 55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, 58 dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

His Conclusion (7:54 – 8:1)

A hostile, Christ hating World
Fury, frenzy and rage

1.- Full of Anger (v.54)

2.- Spiritual Blindness (v.57)

3.- Death (v.58)

4.- Hate (v.58,59)

A Spirit-Filled Servant of God
who confronts that world calmly

1.- Full of the Holy Spirit (v.55)

2.- Spiritual Sight (v.55)

3.- Life (v.59)

4.- Love (v.59.60)

Are you willing to be Expendable?

1.- plan to create opportunities to
communicate Christ

2.- when opportunities come, don't
water it down.