

# ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

## Lesson #6 -Steven

Scripture Reading: Acts 6:1-4

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### Introduction:

1. Two chapters are dedicated to Steven.
2. We learn a valuable spiritual lesson from the life of Steven.

### I. BACKGROUND OF STEVEN

#### A. HE WAS CHOSEN TO SERVE -Ac 6:1-7

1. The widows were neglected of their daily distribution
2. Steven was chosen among seven to serve the widows
  - a. He was full of faith and the Holy Spirit
  - b. Because of his service, along with the others, the word spread

#### B. HE WAS ACCUSED OF BLASPHEMY

1. He displayed faith, powers, and wonders -vs 8
2. His critics were not able to resist the wisdom and Spirit by which he spoke -vs. 10
3. Result, they had him accused of blasphemy

### II. STEVEN'S SERMON

#### A. GOD CALLED ABRAHAM -7:1-8

1. He was called to leave his country -vs. 3
2. He prophecies that they will be in bondage, but come out and serve Him -vs. 7

#### B. JOSEPH WAS SOLD INTO SLAVERY -7:9-16

1. He was rejected by his brethren, but God was with him
2. He was chosen to save his family from the famine

#### C. MOSES CHOSEN TO DELIVER ISRAEL

1. He killed the Egyptian -7:23-28
  - a. He tried reconciling two of his brethren
  - b. They questioned, "Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?"
2. God chose Moses from the burning bush -vs. 30-36
3. Moses predicted another Prophet would rise like him
4. The Israelites made a golden calf in rebellion.

#### D. GOD'S TRUE TABERNACLE

1. Solomon built the Lord a great house
2. Solomon comments on how inadequate it is for God's glory -vs. 49, 50

#### E. THRUST OF THE LESSON

1. They persecuted the prophets
2. They killed Jesus the Son of Almighty God!

## F. THE RESULTS

1. They were angry with Steven and took him out and stoned him
2. During this section we are introduced to a young man named Saul

### Conclusion:

1. Throughout biblical history, the message of God has been rejected.
2. When we look at church history, the message is still rejected by many.
3. Application: we must not be discouraged by rejection. They do not reject us, but rather God.