160 The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments is everlasting.

Psalm 119:160 (NASB)



14 This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

1 John 5:14-15 (NASB)

Acts Part 17

"Stephen's Defense (Part 2)"



3 Instead, brothers and sisters, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

Acts 6:3 (NASB)



5 The announcement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit,

Acts 6:5 (NASB)



8 And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people.

Acts 6:8 (NASB)



10 But they were unable to cope with his wisdom and the Spirit by whom he was speaking.

Acts 6:10 (NASB)



11 Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God."

Acts 6:11-13 (NASB)



12 And they stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes, and they came up to him and dragged him away, and brought him before the Council.

Acts 6:11-13 (NASB)



13 They put forward false witnesses who said, "This man does not stop speaking against this holy place and the Law;

Acts 6:11-13 (NASB)



17 "But as the time of the promise which God had assured to Abraham was approaching, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt, 18 until another king arose over EGYPT WHO DID NOT KNOW JOSEPH.



19 It was he who shrewdly took advantage of our nation and mistreated our fathers in order that they would abandon their infants in the Nile, so that they would not survive.



20 At this time Moses was born; and he was beautiful to God. He was nurtured for three months in his father's home. 21 And after he had been put outside, Pharaoh's daughter took him away and nurtured him as her own son.

22 Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was proficient in speaking and action. 23 But when he was approaching the age of forty, it entered his mind to visit his countrymen, the sons of Israel.

24 And when he saw one of them being treated unjustly, he defended and took vengeance for the oppressed man by fatally striking the Egyptian. 25 And he thought that his brothers understood that God was granting them deliverance through him; but they did not understand.



26 And on the following day he appeared to them as they were fighting each other, and he tried to reconcile them to peace, by saying, 'Men, you are brothers, why are you injuring each other?' 27 But the one who was injuring his neighbor pushed him away, saying, 'WHO MADE YOU A RULER AND JUDGE OVER US?



28 YOU DO NOT INTEND TO KILL ME AS YOU KILLED THE EGYPTIAN YESTERDAY, DO YOU?' 29 At this remark, Moses fled AND BECAME A STRANGER IN THE LAND OF MIDIAN, where he fathered two sons.



30 "After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in the flame of a burning thorn bush.



31 When Moses saw it, he was astonished at the sight; and as he approached to look *more* closely, the voice of the Lord came: 32 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob.' Moses shook with fear and did not dare to look closely.



33 But the Lord said to him, 'REMOVE YOUR SANDALS FROM YOUR FEET, FOR THE PLACE ON WHICH YOU ARE STANDING IS HOLY GROUND. 34 I HAVE CERTAINLY SEEN THE OPPRESSION OF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE IN EGYPT, AND HAVE HEARD THEIR GROANING, AND I HAVE COME DOWN TO RESCUE THEM; AND NOW COME, I WILL SEND YOU TO EGYPT.'



35 "This Moses whom they disowned, saying, 'Who MADE YOU A RULER AND A JUDGE?' is the one whom God sent to be both a ruler and a deliverer with the help of the angel who appeared to him in the thorn bush.



36 This man led them out, performing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt and in the Red Sea, and in the wilderness for forty years. 37 This is the Moses who said to the sons of Israel, 'God WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR COUNTRYMEN.



38 This is the one who was in the assembly in the wilderness together with the angel who spoke to him at length on Mount Sinai, and who was with our fathers; and he received living words to pass on to you.



39 Our fathers were unwilling to be obedient to him; on the contrary they rejected him and turned back to Egypt in their hearts, 40 saying to Aaron, 'MAKE US A GOD WHO WILL GO BEFORE US; FOR THIS MOSES WHO LED US OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT—WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.



41 At that time they made a calf and brought a sacrifice to the idol, and were rejoicing in the works of their hands.



42 But God turned away and gave them over to serve the heavenly lights; as it is written in the book of the prophets: 'You did not offer Me VICTIMS AND SACRIFICES FOR FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS, DID YOU, HOUSE OF ISRAEL?



43 You also took along the tabernacle of Moloch and the star of your god Rompha, the images which you made to worship. I also will deport you beyond Babylon.'



