

God Ordained Diaspora



God Ordained Diaspora



- Acts 6:8–15 Stephen Brought to Trial
- Acts 7:1–53 Stephen's Testimony/Sermon
- Acts 7:54–8:1 Stephen's Martyrdom and God Ordained Diaspora

Stephen Brought to Trial

A statue of a man, likely Stephen, is the central focus. He is depicted from the waist up, wearing a dark, heavy robe. He has long hair and a beard. The statue is set against a dark, ornate background that appears to be the interior of a grand building, possibly a synagogue or a courtroom, with arches and columns visible. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the statue's features.

Act 6:8–15 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. (9) Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen. (10) And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke...

Stephen Brought to Trial



Act 6:8–15 ... (11) Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." (12) And they stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes; and they came upon him, seized him, and brought him to the council...

Stephen Brought to Trial

Act 6:8-15 ... (13) They also set up false witnesses who said, "This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place and the law; (14) for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses delivered to us." (15) And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel.

Stephen's Testimony/Sermon

- Israel's history by Who's Who
 - Abraham
 - Joseph
 - Moses
 - David/Solomon
- He highlights God's Faithfulness and Israel's Sin
- He Issues Condemnation

Stephen Talks About Abraham



Act 7:2–8 And he said, "Brethren and fathers, listen: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, (3) and said to him, 'GET OUT OF YOUR COUNTRY AND FROM YOUR RELATIVES, AND COME TO A LAND THAT I WILL SHOW YOU...'

Stephen Talks About Abraham

Act 7:2–8 ... (4) Then he came out of the land of the Chaldeans and dwelt in Haran. And from there, when his father was dead, He moved him to this land in which you now dwell. (5) And God gave him no inheritance in it, not even enough to set his foot on. But even when Abraham had no child, He promised to give it to him for a possession, and to his descendants after him...

Stephen Talks About Abraham

Act 7:2–8 ... (6) But God spoke in this way: that his descendants would dwell in a foreign land, and that they would bring them into bondage and oppress them four hundred years. (7) 'AND THE NATION TO WHOM THEY WILL BE IN BONDAGE I WILL JUDGE,' said God, 'AND AFTER THAT THEY SHALL COME OUT AND SERVE ME IN THIS PLACE....' ... (8) Then He gave him the covenant of circumcision; and so Abraham begot

Stephen Talks About Abraham



Act 7:2–8 ...(8) Then He gave him the covenant of circumcision; and so Abraham begot Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot the twelve patriarchs.

Stephen Talks About Joseph



Act 7:9–13 "And the patriarchs, becoming envious, sold Joseph into Egypt. But God was with him (10) and delivered him out of all his troubles, and gave him favor and wisdom in the presence of Pharaoh, king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house..."

Stephen Talks About Joseph

Act 7:9-13 "...(11) Now a famine and great trouble came over all the land of Egypt and Canaan, and our fathers found no sustenance. (12) But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent out our fathers first. (13) And the second time Joseph was made known to his brothers, and Joseph's family became known to the Pharaoh.

Stephen Talks About Moses

Act 7:17-20 "But when the time of the promise drew near which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt (18) till another king arose who did not know Joseph. (19) This man dealt treacherously with our people, and oppressed our forefathers, making them expose their babies, so that they might not live. (20) At this time Moses was born, and was well pleasing to God; and he was brought up in his father's house for three months.

Stephen Talks About Moses

Act 7:30–35 "And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai. (31) When Moses saw it, he marveled at the sight; and as he drew near to observe, the voice of the Lord came to him, (32) saying, 'I AM THE GOD OF YOUR FATHERS—THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB...'

Stephen Talks About Moses

Act 7:30–35 "...And Moses trembled and dared not look. (33) 'Then the LORD said to him, "TAKE YOUR SANDALS OFF YOUR FEET, FOR THE PLACE WHERE YOU STAND IS HOLY GROUND. (34) I HAVE SURELY SEEN THE OPPRESSION OF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE IN EGYPT; I HAVE HEARD THEIR GROANING AND HAVE COME DOWN TO DELIVER THEM. AND NOW COME, I WILL SEND YOU TO EGYPT...." ' "

Stephen Talks About Moses



Act 7:30–35 "...(35) "This Moses whom they rejected, saying, 'WHO MADE YOU A RULER AND A JUDGE?' is the one God sent to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the Angel who appeared to him in the bush.

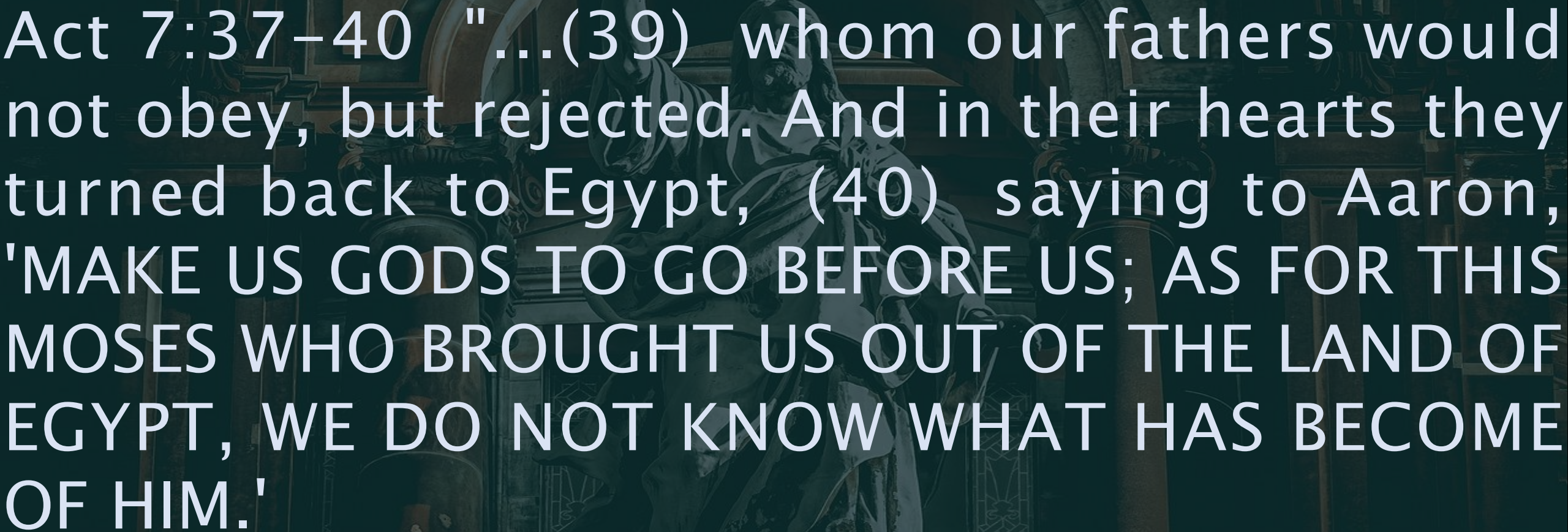
The Prophet Like Unto Moses

Act 7:37–40 "This is that Moses who said to the children of Israel, 'THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN. HIM YOU SHALL HEAR.' (38)

"This is he who was in the congregation in the wilderness with the Angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, the one who received the living oracles to give to us,...

Israel Rejected Moses

Act 7:37-40 "... (39) whom our fathers would not obey, but rejected. And in their hearts they turned back to Egypt, (40) saying to Aaron, 'MAKE US GODS TO GO BEFORE US; AS FOR THIS MOSES WHO BROUGHT US OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT, WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAS BECOME OF HIM.'



Stephen Condemns Israelite Leaders

Act 7:51-53 "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. (52) Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, (53) who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it."

Stephen's Martyrdom

Act 7:54–8:1 When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. (55) But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, (56) and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" (57) Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; (58) and they cast him out of the city and stoned him...

God's Ordained Diaspora



Act 7:54–8:1 ...And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. (59) And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." (60) Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep...

God's Ordained Diaspora



Act 7:54–8:1 ...(8:1) Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

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