

# Understand your Bible

## Suggested notes

### Acts 7

**What we will see in this chapter:**

- What Stephen showed from the history of the Jews
- Why the priests were annoyed

#### 1 Read the chapter

**2 Questions** to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 4	1. Where did God have dealings with Abraham?	God appeared to Abraham in Mesopotamia. After living in Haran, Abraham moved to the land of Israel.
v 5	2. What did God give Abraham at that time and promise him in the future?	At that time he wasn't given anything. God said that in the future he would give him and his offspring the land where he was living.
6 to 8	3. What did God say would happen to Abraham's offspring?	They would live as slaves in a foreign land and be mistreated for 400 years.
9 to 19	4. Where did the patriarchs end up and what happened to them there?	First Joseph and then Jacob's whole family ended up in Egypt. They were mistreated in Egypt and became slaves.
20 to 29	5. What happened to Moses in Egypt and where did he go then?	He was brought up by Pharaoh's daughter and was well educated in Egypt. When he was 40 years old he decided to try and help his fellow country-men. He had to flee to Midian after it was known he had killed an Egyptian.
30 to 34	6. What was Moses told when he saw the burning bush?	He was told that the God of Israel had come to deliver his people out of Egypt.

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35 to 41	7. What did Stephen say about Moses in the following verse(s)?	
	v 35	God sent him as a ruler and deliverer, but the Israelites refused him.
	v 36	He worked wonders and signs in Egypt, the Red Sea and the wilderness.
	v 37	God would raise up a prophet like him.
	v 38 to 41	Through an angel he gave them living revelations which they refused to listen to. They sacrificed to an idol when they didn't know what had happened to Moses.
42 & 43 <i>Text note v 42: Stephen is quoting Amos 5 v 25 and 26.</i>	8. What did Stephen say that God did?	He gave them up and let them serve idols as the prophets had predicted.
44 to 46	9. What did Stephen say they had in the wilderness to enable them to worship God?	They had the tabernacle of the testimony which was made according to the pattern shown by God to Moses.
47 to 50 <i>Text note v 49: Stephen is quoting Isaiah 66 v 1 and 2.</i>	10. What did Stephen say about where God dwells?	He doesn't dwell in temples made with hands.
51 to 53	11. What did Stephen accuse the priests of?	He accused them of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ being stubborn</li> <li>➤ resisting the Holy Spirit</li> <li>➤ being like their fathers who persecuted the prophets</li> <li>➤ killing the Righteous One</li> <li>➤ not keeping the law</li> </ul>
54 to 60	12. What did they do to Stephen?	They took him outside the city and stoned him.

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### 3 Related theme from v 57 to 60: *God's principles can be very unpopular.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the Bible. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Verse(s)	Main point(s)
Psalms 37 v 12 to 15	The wicked plan bad things for the righteous, but they will eventually get what they deserve.
Psalms 71 v 4	The Psalmist asks God to rescue him from the hand of the wicked.
Psalms 71 v 10 to 13	The Psalmist asks God to deliver him from his enemies who claim God has forsaken him.
John 15 v 18 to 20	Jesus Christ tells us that his followers can expect to be unpopular.
2 Timothy 3 v 12	The apostle Paul says that followers of Jesus should expect persecution.
1 John 3 v 13	The apostle John says that this unpopularity should not be a surprise.