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Acts 6:8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

<u>9</u> Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called *the synagogue* of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.

<u>10</u> And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

<u>11</u> Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and *against* God.

<u>12</u> And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon *him*, and caught him, and brought *him* to the council,

<u>13</u> And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

<u>14</u> For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

<u>15</u> And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

I. THE ORGANIZATION

A. The Person, 1:1-2 B. The Proofs, 1:3 C. The Pastor, 1:4a D. The Preparation, 1:4b E. The Power, 1:5 F. The Predicament, 1:6-7 G. The Performance, 1:8 **II. THE OPERATION** A. Watching the Ascension of the Savior, 1:9-11 B. Waiting for Empowering of the Spirit, 1:12-26 **III. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDING EMPHASIS –** SIMON, 2:1-5:42 A. Testimony, 2:1-47 B. Triumph, 3:1-4:37 C. Treachery, 5:1-42

IV. THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS -STEPHEN, 6:1-12:25 A. The First Ministers, 6:1-7 1. Division, 6:1 a. Growth, 6:1a b. Grievance, 6:1b 2. Addition, 6:2-6 a. The Meeting, 6:2a b. The Motion, 6:2b-5a The Priority – "...It is not reason that we should leave the word of God..." The Practicality – "...and serve tables." • The Process (or Polity)

The Pleasing – "And the saying pleased the whole multitude..."
c. The Men, 6:5b-6

3. Multiplication, 6:7

a. Its Scope, 6:7a

b. Its Significance, 6:7b

- As with Christ, Stephen's enemies could not answer his arguments (Acts 6:10 with Mt. 22:46.)
- As with Christ, Stephen's enemies hired false witnesses (Acts 6:11 with Mt. 26:60.)
- As with Christ, Stephen's enemies accused him of blasphemy (Acts 6:13 with Mt. 26:65.)
- As with Christ, Stephen's enemies stirred up the people against him (Acts 6:12 with Mt. 27:20.)
- As with Christ, Stephen's enemies accused him of not reverencing the Law (Acts 6:13 with Mt. 12:2.)
- As with Christ, Stephen's enemies accused him of forecasting the destruction of the Temple (Acts 6:14 with Mt. 26:61.)

B. The First Martyr, 6:8-7:60

1. Stephen, the Tremendous Worker, 6:8-15 a. His Divine Enablement, 6:8-14 i. The Wonders He Performed, 6:8 <u>Acts 6:8</u> And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

ii. The Words He Proclaimed, 6:9-14

(a) How He Engaged His Foes, 6:9-10

Acts 6:9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called *the synagogue* of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen. 10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit

by which he spake.

Original Word: Λιβερτῖνος Transliteration: Libertinos Definition: a freedman, one of the class of manumitted slaves; a synagogue at Jerusalem appears to have been reserved for them. <u>http://biblehub.com/greek/3032.htm</u>



https://www.google.com/search?q=Cyrene&tbm=isch&imgil=hc7sV_4xbYn7IM%253A%253BD9xAsjtxhEfxWM%253Bhttp%25253A %25252F%25252Fblogs.umb.edu%25252Fbuildingtheworld%25252Ffounding-of-new-cities%25252Fthe-founding-of-cyrenelibya%25252F&source=iu&pf=m&fir=hc7sV_4xbYn7IM%253A%252CD9xAsjtxhEfxWM%252C_&usg=__o-DVAVeBgghNPxEGTqCEwdpcejc%3D&biw=1350&bih=794&ved=0ahUKEwjOuvhrOHSAhWC7oMKHfT9DoYQyjcIhwE&ei=19XNWI6zLILdjwT0-7uwCA#imgrc=hc7sV_4xbYn7IM



(b) How He Enraged His Foes, 6:11-14

i. How They Incited the Mob, 6:11

<u>Acts 6:11</u> Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and *against* God.

Original Word: ὑποβάλλω Transliteration: hupoballó Definition: I throw or put under; met: I subject, submit, suggest, whisper, prompt, suborn, instigate. http://biblehub.com/greek/5260.htm

suborned = Law.

To induce (a person, especially a witness) to give false testimony. To obtain (false testimony) from a witness. http://www.dictionary.com/browse/suborned?s=t <u>1 Pet. 3:16</u> Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

ii. How They Indicted the Man, 6:12-13

<u>Acts 6:12</u> And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon *him*, and caught him, and brought *him* to the council,

<u>13</u> And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

Original Word: συγκινέω Transliteration: sugkineó Definition: I move together, stir up, excite. (Used only here in NT) http://biblehub.com/greek/4787.htm

iii. How They Insulted the Master, 6:14

<u>Acts 6:14</u> For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

<u>Mt. 26:59</u> Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death; <u>60</u> But found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses, <u>61</u> And said, This *fellow* said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.

b. His Divine Ennoblement, 6:15

Acts 6:15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Conclusion

Eph. 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

<u>16</u> That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

<u>17</u> That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

<u>18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;</u>

<u>19</u> And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

21 Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.