

Acts 7:35 This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush. 36 He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years. 37 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear. 38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:

39 To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust *him* from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt, 40 Saying unto Aaron, Make us gods to go before us: for *as for* this Moses, which brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

<u>41</u> And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands. <u>42</u> Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness? <u>43</u> Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

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 2. Addition, 6:2-6 3. Multiplication, 6:7 B. The First Martyr, 6:8-7:60 1. Stephen, the Tremendous Worker, 6:8-15 a. His Divine Enablement, 6:8-14 b. His Divine Ennoblement, 6:15 2. Stephen, the Truthful Witness, 7:1-53 a. His Excellent Approach, 7:1-8 (1) He Talks about Abraham's Faith (2) He Talks about Abraham's Future b. His Extensive Appeal, 7:9-50 (1) How Israel Had Treated Their Saviors, 7:9-36

(a) Their Rejection of Joseph, the One Who Settled Them in Egypt, 7:9-16
(b) Their Reaction to Moses, the One Who Saved Them from Egypt, 7:17-36
i. The Fearful Bondage of Israel, 7:17-19
ii. The Foolish Bigotry of Israel, 7:20-28
iii. The Further Burdens of Israel, 7:29-34

- While Moses Was Learning, 7:29
- While Moses Was Looking, 7:30-31
- While Moses Was Listening, 7:32-34
 - To a Living God, 7:32-33
 - To a Loving God, 7:34

iv. The Fatal Blindness of Israel, 7:35-36

Moses Had Been Sent to Save Them, 7:35

<u>Acts 7:35</u> This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send *to be* a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush. (= Theophany) Acts 7:23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel. ... 30 And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush. ...

<u>36</u> He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years.

These stages were:

preparation ending with rejection by his brethren,
 preparation ending with his return to Egypt, and
 ruling and judging Israel.

Moses Had Been Sent to Separate Them, 7:36

Acts 7:36 He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years.

Psa. 77:20 Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

2 Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. (2) How Israel Had Treated Their

Scriptures, 7:37-43

(a) The Scriptures Delivered to Israel, 7:37-38

i. A Word About Their Messiah, 7:37

Acts 7:37 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.

<u>Deut. 18:15</u> The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;

<u>Acts 3:22</u> For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

ii. A Word About Their Mandate, 7:38

 Their Gathering (the church), 7:38a "This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness..."

Ex. 35:1 And Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These *are* the words which the LORD hath commanded, that *ye* should do them.

Psa. 22:22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

Heb. 2:12 Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

 The Guide (the Angel), 7:38b "...with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:"

Jn. 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

<u>Heb. 4:12</u> For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

(b) The Scriptures Disobeyed by Israel, 7:39-43

i. Their Rebellion Against the Leadership God Gave, 7:39-40

Acts 7:39 To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust him from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt,

<u>40</u> Saying unto Aaron, Make us gods to go before us: for as for this Moses, which brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. Rom. 9:19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?

<u>20</u> Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed *it*, Why hast thou made me thus?

21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? 22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, 24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

25 As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. 26 And it shall come to pass, *that* in the place where it was said unto them, Ye *are* not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God. Num. 14:3 And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt? <u>4</u> And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

Psa. 78:40 How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, and grieve him in the desert! 41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.

Gal. 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. ii. Their Rebellion Against the Laws God Gave, 7:41-43

Their Initial Apostasy, 7:41

Acts 7:41 And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.

Ex. 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for *as for* this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. ... 23 For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for *as for* this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. ...

Isa. 2:8 Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made:

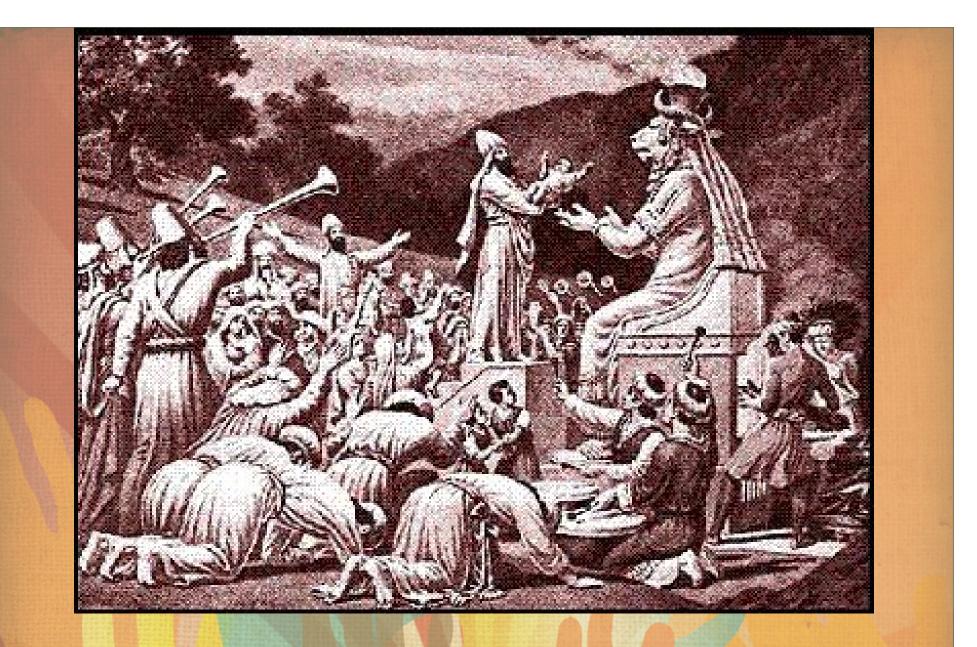
• Their Increasing Apostasy, 7:42-43

Acts 7:42 Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness?

<u>43</u> Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

<u>Psa. 81:10</u> I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.
<u>11</u> But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.
<u>12</u> So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.

Rom. 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: Amos 5:25 Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? 26 But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves. 27 Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the LORD, whose name *is* The God of hosts.



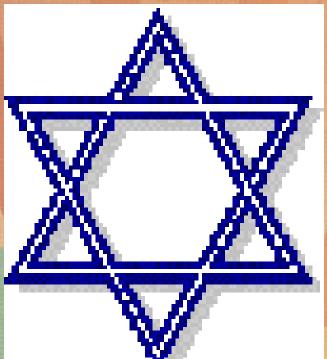
https://littleguyintheeye.files.wordpress.com/2010/01/molech.jpg

Lev. 18:21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.

<u>1 Kgs. 11:7</u> Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

Jer. 32:35 And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

THE STAR OF MOLOCH OR REMPHAN



http://zionofjah.tripod.com/id25.htm

Conclusion

Eph. 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: <u>32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted,</u> forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.