

Acts 6:1-15 2026 – SEVEN CHOSEN TO SERVE; STEPHEN ACCUSED OF BLASPHEMY

7/4/26 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com <https://www.ptwente.com>

ACTS 5:40-41 *And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. [41] So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. [42] And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.*

ACTS 6:1-15:

Seven Chosen to Serve - [1] *Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. [2] Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. [3] Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; [4] but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." [5] And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, (all Greek names) [6] whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. [7] Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.*

Stephen Is Seized -Accused of Blasphemy – [8] *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. [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. [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.*

SUMMARY:

- **THE REASONS FOR LEADERSHIP** – Acts 6:1-2, 4
- **THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LEADERSHIP** – Acts 6:3, 5-6

• **THE RESULTS OF LEADERSHIP – Acts 6:7** Here in the beginning of chapter 6, we see the third attempt by Satan to destroy the church! It may be the cleverest attack yet – more devious than persecution or corruption!

Now here we have distraction—a COMPLAINT! If the apostles could be distracted by being preoccupied with social administration, which though essential, was not their calling, they would neglect their God-given responsibilities to pray and to preach, and so leave the church without any defense against false doctrine!

Are you a person of: • A good reputation? • Full of the Holy Spirit? • Full of wisdom? • Full of faith

PRAY TODAY FOR: *(1Ti 2:1-4) Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, [2] for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. [3] For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, [4] who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

George Washington – July 2, 1776 (the true day of Independence), it was announced two days later, hence the date July 4, 1776

Simultaneous to the Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia to declare independence on July 2, 1776, GEORGE WASHINGTON was gathering his troops on Long Island to meet the British in battle in and around New York City. He wrote these memorable words in the General Orders to his men that day:

- “The time is now near at hand which must probably determine
- whether Americans are to be freemen or slaves;
- whether they are to have any property they can call their own;
- whether their houses and farms are to be pillaged and destroyed,
- and they consigned to a state of wretchedness from which no human efforts will probably deliver them.
- The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army. Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us no choice but a brave resistance, or the most abject submission; this is all we can expect.
- We have therefore to resolve to conquer or die; Our own country’s honor, all call upon us for a vigorous and manly exertion, and if we now shamefully fail, we shall become infamous to the whole world.
- Let us therefore rely upon the goodness of the cause, and the aid of the supreme Being, in whose hands victory is, to animate and encourage us to great and noble actions.
- The eyes of all our countrymen are now upon us, and we shall have their blessings and praises, if happily we are the instruments of saving them from the tyranny meditated against them.
- Let us therefore animate and encourage each other and show the whole world that a freeman contending for liberty on his own ground is superior to any slavish mercenary on earth.”