

ACTS

OF THE APOSTLES

STUDY 23

ACTS 7:1-8

FORMER ADVENTIST FELLOWSHIP BIBLE STUDY

After the Jews had dragged Stephen into the Council, accused him with false witnesses, and had seen his face “like the face of an angel,” Stephen gave one of the first (and the longest in the book of Acts) expository sermons of the New Testament as he recounted the mileposts from Israel’s history and showed how the Lord Jesus fulfilled all the foreshadowing. He began with Abraham.

- 1. He began by recounting God’s call of Abraham “in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.” He begins by identifying God as “the God of glory.” What OT connotation would this name have had for the Jews, and who is the “God of Glory” spoken of in Psalms and now by Stephen?**

Psalm 29:1-4 _____

1 Corinthians 2:6-8 _____

James 2:1 _____

- 2. What do we know about Abraham and his roots?**

Genesis 15:1-7 _____

Genesis 11:31-12:4 _____

Joshua 24:2-3 _____

Nehemiah 9:7 _____

- 3. God promised Abraham (v. 5) that He would give him and his descendants the land as a possession, even though Abraham himself never had a foot of ground that belonged to him. What does this promise and apparent lack of visible fulfillment in Abraham’s lifetime—combined with Abraham’s believing God—demonstrate?**

Romans 4:16-22 _____

Hebrews 4:8-13 _____

John 8:56-58 _____

Genesis 15:1-7 _____

4. Besides promising Abram seed, land, and blessing, what else did God say would happen to his descendants, and how was this fulfilled?

Acts 7:6-8 _____

Exodus 6:2-8 _____

Exodus 12:40-41 _____

5. What was the purpose and significance of the covenant of circumcision God gave to Abraham?

Genesis 17:10-14 _____

Jeremiah 4:3-4 _____

John 7:19-24 _____

6. As the Lord Jesus fulfilled God’s covenant with Abraham, how was circumcision fulfilled?

Romans 2:25-29 _____

Colossians 2:11-15 _____

7. What is the significance of Abraham’s believing God prior to his being circumcised, and what is the significance of his being circumcised?

Romans 4:1-12 _____

MEDITATE

When have you, like Stephen, had to defend Scripture and the truth about Jesus to a hostile audience? Can you explain to someone who hasn’t “seen” it how God’s covenant to Abraham is unconditional and is our promise of our security in Jesus when we believe? What is God asking you to entrust to Him, allowing Him to circumcise it out of your “flesh” as you trust Him and live by His Spirit and in the resurrection power of the Lord Jesus?
