

The Sunday School Lesson

GIVING ONE'S BEST
MARCH 24, 1974
LESSON TEXT:
Acts 6:8 to 8:3.

In our previous lesson we have learned that Stephen was one of the seven men "of honest report" (good character) chosen by the Apostles to act as mediators between the various squabbling factions of the early Christian church.

The men so chosen had to be of good repute amongst their fellows; they had to be possessed of integrity; they had to be imbued with the Holy Spirit in word, thought and deed. In short, they had to be dedicated and mature Christians.

Such a man was Stephen, who later became one of the greatest evangelists of all times — and particularly of that era in which he lived. For it was through his devotion to the church that Christianity took a giant step forward.

Stephen dared to challenge hitherto accepted ideas with the bold new concept of Christian spirituality, and, although his boldness cost him his life, he fulfilled unflinchingly the destiny conferred upon him by God.

We are the richer for his devotion and his courage!

Surely his story must impress us with the potential of a dedicated life, and inspire us in our own struggles in behalf of our chosen faith!

One of Stephen's most outstanding characteristics was that he both recognized and accepted challenge. A man of great spirituality, Stephen recognized the fact that when Christ spoke of a temple, He referred to the physical body of man, housing the God-given wonder of the soul. Because others were less literate, and more mundane in their outlooks, Stephen was persecuted, as was Christ. He, as was Christ, was falsely accused, and he, as did Christ, faced his accusers with both pride and courage. He was acutely aware that before the Christian movement could go forward, certain myths had to be exploded, and this he proceeded to do, against all personal safety. For a time had come when the Christian faith could not be contained in any one place, for any one people.

And, like Christ, when he met his end at the hands of those who stoned him, he had but one prayer in his heart and on his lips: "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

Many sins have been committed in the name of religion — and many wars fought. Too often these things have come about because of a narrow religious viewpoint. People too often confine their religion to the letter of the law, instead of taking the broader view of its intent. Herein lies the difference between a religious man and a spiritual one.

The spiritual man is concerned — he is concerned about his fellow men. He is devoted in service... both to God and to mankind. He lends himself to be the willing instrument of the Lord's will, and steps down gracefully when the Lord is ready for him to relinquish his task to another; in Stephen's case this was Saul. The spiritual man teaches by the example of his life, rather than merely preach with words. He gives of himself in humble service and, in so doing, gives Christ his best.

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SENDING
The Middle Fork Independent Baptist Church, located four miles North of Marx Hill on U. S. 31 will have their regular fifth Saturday night singing on Saturday March 23rd at 7 p.m. Preceded by this singing will be the Cole's Cove Youth Choir, Silver Chapel Singers, Friendship Singers, and Family and friends. All welcome. Public is invited. Free will offering. All gifts will be in charge of the church.

VALUABLE INGLES COUPON
3lb. CAN.....
CRISCO
\$1.09

• LIMIT ONE WITH A \$1.50 ORDER AND THIS COUPON...NOT INCLUDING COUPON ITEMS.
• LIMIT ONE COUPON PER ORDER • COUPON EXP. 3-23-74

VALUABLE INGLES COUPON
MARTHA WHITE...5lb. BAG
FLOUR
79¢

PLAIN OR SELF RISE *
• LIMIT ONE WITH THIS COUPON AND A \$1.50 ORDER...NOT INCLUDING COUPON ITEMS.
• LIMIT ONE COUPON PER ORDER • COUPON EXP. 3-23-74

VALUABLE INGLES COUPON
JFG...1lb. BAG.....
COFFEE
69¢

• LIMIT ONE WITH THIS COUPON AND A \$1.50 ORDER...NOT INCLUDING COUPON ITEMS.
• LIMIT ONE COUPON PER ORDER • COUPON EXP. 3-23-74

VALUABLE INGLES COUPON
LIPTON 100 CT. PACK....
TEABAGS
89¢

• LIMIT ONE WITH THIS COUPON AND A \$1.50 ORDER...NOT INCLUDING COUPON ITEMS.
• LIMIT ONE COUPON PER ORDER • COUPON EXP. 3-23-74

MEMBER **MDI**
THIS AD EXPIRES 3-23-74
ingles
QUANTITY RIGHTS RESERVED

★ **(THE LATE NITE PLACE TO SHOP!**

SUPERFINE
• 303 CANS •
VEGETABLES
SALE!
• SHOE PEG CORN •
• WHOLE KERNEL CORN •
• FRENCH STYLE GR. BEANS •

41¢ your choice

US CHOICE BONELESS...
CHUCK ROAST 99¢ lb.
US CHOICE BONELESS...
SHOULDER ROAST \$1.09 lb.
US CHOICE...
DELMONICO STEAK \$1.69 lb.
RATH'S BLACK HAWK...
BACON 99¢ lb.
ARMOUR...5 to 7 lbs...
BAKING HENS 59¢ lb.
CAPTAIN JOE...3oz. FROZEN...
DEVILED CRAB 41¢ lb.
MARKET SLICED...
BACON 89¢ lb.
LEAN BONELESS...
CHUCK STEW \$1.29 lb.
SWIFTS HOSTESS...4 lb...
CANNED HAM \$5.89

CAMPBELLS...REG. SIZE...
TOMATO SOUP 2/25¢
PRIDE...lb. BOX...
SALTINES 3/1.00
8 1/2oz. TWIN PACK...
POTATO CHIPS 53¢
SUGAR CREEK REAL...
BUTTER 79¢ lb. CTTS.
LONDON DRY...28oz...
DRINKS 5/1.00
JFG...QUART JAR...
MAYONNAISE 79¢
GIVE-N-TAKE...
PANTY HOSE 59¢ PR.
JFG...3lb. JAR...
PEANUT BUTTER \$1.39
STERLING...26oz...
SALT 2/25¢

CLIP THIS COUPON AND SAVE

KEEBLER RED TAG SALE!
• SUGAR • OATMEAL • CHOCOLATE CHIP •
COOKIES 99¢ 13oz. 2 FOR
your choice 13oz. 2 FOR 99¢
STARKIST...6 1/2oz...
TUNA 49¢
VANITY FAIR...BIG RD...
TOWELS 39¢
WHITEHOUSE...303...
APPLE SAUCE 4/1.00
ROYAL...REG. SIZE...
GELATIN 10¢
HEINZ 32oz. BOTTLE...
KETCHUP 59¢

TENDER...
CHUCK STEAK 89¢ lb.
LEAN...
SHORT RIBS OF BEEF 69¢ lb.
RATH'S...12oz. PK...
FRANKS 79¢
RATH'S PORK...
SAUSAGE 69¢
MDI...HAMBURGER & HOT DOG...
BUNS 33¢ 8 PK.
ARMOUR...12oz. CAN...
TREET 89¢
L & M...REG. OR KING SIZE...
CIGARETTES \$2.37 CARTON *

GOLDEN RIPE...
BANANAS 10¢ lb.
WHOLESALE 12oz. CAN...
ORANGE JUICES 3/1.05
BANQUET...8oz...
POT PIES 4/1.00
WELLESLEY FARM 1/2 GAL...
ICE CREAM 69¢
WELLESLEY FARMS 1/2 GAL...
ICE MILK 49¢
Cello Pack * Fresh Green
CARROTS & CABBAGE 10¢ EA. lb.

MAXIM...8oz. INSTANT...
COFFEE
SAVE .50¢
* WITH THIS COUPON...
your choice \$1.99 WITHOUT COUPON \$2.49
THIS COUPON EXPIRES 3-23-74

KETCHUP 59¢

CIGARETTES \$2.37 CARTON *

ICE CREAM 69¢
ICE MILK 49¢
CARROTS & CABBAGE 10¢ EA. lb.