

# STEPHEN

## A MAN LED BY HIS SPIRIT

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE | SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

## **Text: Acts 6:1–15, Acts 7:54–56**

*“And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost 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 of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. 7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. 8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people. 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. 11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God. 12 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, 13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law: 14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us. 15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.” (Acts 6:1–15)*

*“When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.” (Acts 7:54–56)*

INTRODUCTION

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

1. LED IN HIS \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_ by the Church (v. 1-5)

APPARENT NEED

APPROVED MEN

*“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” (Romans 8:9)*

**Quote:** “If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. Since only the Holy Spirit gives spiritual life, a person cannot be related to Christ apart from the Spirit.”

*“Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.” (John 16:7)*

**Quote:** “Being in the Spirit’ is a power or realm in contrast to the realm of the flesh. A change in dominion has occurred for those who are united with Christ and tasted the fruits of the dawning new era.”—**Thomas Schreiner**

### 5 COMMANDS RELATIVE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT'S MINISTRY IN OUR LIVES.

1. \_\_\_\_\_—I Thessalonians 5:19
2. \_\_\_\_\_—Ephesians 4:30
3. \_\_\_\_\_—Galatians 5
4. \_\_\_\_\_—Jude 20
5. \_\_\_\_\_—Ephesians 5:18

**Quote:** “We are never commanded to be indwelt by the Spirit or baptized by the Spirit, or to speak in tongues, but we are to continually seek the filling of the Spirit.”

B. \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit (v. 5)

#### FULL OF FAITH

*“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)*

#### FULL OF POWER

*“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)*

C. \_\_\_\_\_ with Grace (v. 9–15)

#### THE OPPOSITION TO GOD'S MAN

#### OBSERVATION OF GOD'S MAN

*“Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.” (Philippians 4:5)*

## 2. LED IN HIS \_\_\_\_\_

*“Then said the high priest, Are these things so?” (Acts 7:1)*

A. \_\_\_\_\_

*“And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran, 3 And said unto*

*him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee. 4 Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell. 5 And he gave him none inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on: yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child.”*  
(Acts 7:2–5)

#### ABRAHAM BY FAITH BELIEVED THE REVELATION

#### ABRAHAM WOULD RECEIVE THE PROMISES THROUGH HIS SEED

#### ABRAHAM’S REVELATION FULFILLED IN JOSEPH AND MOSES

B. \_\_\_\_\_

*“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. 41 And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.”* (Acts 7:37–41)

#### A FORGOTTEN PROPHET

*“I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.”*  
(Deuteronomy 18:18)

*“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.”* (Acts 3:22)

#### A FORGOTTEN PRESENCE

*“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?” (Acts 7:42)*

C. \_\_\_\_\_

*“Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye. 52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:” (Acts 7:51–52)*

*“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)*

### 3. LED IN HIS \_\_\_\_\_

A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the World (v. 54a)

*“If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.” (John 15:18)*

**Quote:** “Devout Christians are destined to be regarded as fools in modern society.”—**Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia**

#### 3 REASONS FOR THE WORLD’S HATE

1. Because \_\_\_\_\_ Is the god of this World

*“But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.” (2 Corinthians 4:3–4)*

2. The Truth of the Bible \_\_\_\_\_ the Sin of the World

*“If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.” (John 15:22)*

3. The Gospel Message Is \_\_\_\_\_

*“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6)*

B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Grace

*“But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. 57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, 58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man’s feet, whose name was Saul.” (Acts 7:55–58)*

THE SIGHT OF HEAVEN

THE SIGHT OF JESUS

*“And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.” (1 Corinthians 6:14)*

*“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.” (Romans 8:11)*

CONCLUSION

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*“And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man’s feet, whose name was Saul.” (Acts 7:58)*

*“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” (1 John 4:4)*



**Lancaster Baptist Church** • 4020 E. Lancaster Blvd. • Lancaster, CA 93535  
661.946.4663 • [lancasterbaptist.org](http://lancasterbaptist.org) • Paul Chappell, Pastor