
A Powerful Witness

Acts 6 & 7

The Witness of Christ (Acts 7)

1. The accusations against Stephen were that he was changing the teachings of the OT Scriptures. That He was starting a new religion with Jesus. Stephen showed that Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament in his death and Resurrection. Read Stephen's conclusion (Acts 7:51-53) and discuss the Israelites response to the prophets and their message. How is this similar to the Jews response to Jesus?
2. Read The following passages and discuss Jesus own words describing His relationship to the Old Testament law and prophets.
 - Matthew 5:17-18
 - Luke 24:27
3. Read Hebrews 10:1-4 and describe the problem that the Old Testament had in atoning for sin.
4. Read Hebrews 10:12-14 and describe how Jesus Christ fulfilled the Law by being the ultimate sacrifice. How does He accomplish this "once and for all?"

The Witness of Unity (Acts 6)

5. Read the following passages and describe the characteristics of the growing group of disciples.
 - Acts 2:42-47
 - Acts 4:32-35
6. Read the following verses from Jesus final prayer for his disciples and identify the requests that He makes for his people.
 - John 17:11
 - John 17:15
 - John 17:17
 - John 17:21;22;23
7. Read Acts 6:3 and identify the ones who were involved in the solution to the dispute amongst the disciples. Does this help us to see how our observation of difficulties can guide us in ministering to God's people?