

Questions for Consideration--With The Master On Our Knees--The Prayer of the First Martyr--Acts 7:55-60—Lesson 18

1. Stephen is first mentioned in Acts 6:1-15. (a) Write down all the characteristics that are mentioned about him. (b) What happened as a result of his faith? See vss. 9-15.

2. Memorize Acts 7:59, 60.

3. Read Stephen's masterful sermon in Acts 7. (a) What does he say that provokes unbelievers to hate him? Why are his words so inflammatory? (b) What was the result of his sermon according to Acts 7:54-60? (c) Are you willing to say hard things, when needed, to unbelievers or believers? Why or why not? (d) What price are you willing to pay to be a follow of the Lord?

4. (a) How would you describe the prayer of the first martyr in Acts 7:59, 60? (b) What can you pray on behalf of those who persecute you? (c) What encouragement can you take from Matthew 5:10-12 and 5:43-48 regarding persecution?

5. (a) What happened as a result of Stephen's death according to Acts 8:1-4 and Acts 11:19-26? (b) How does this relate to what Paul says in Romans 8:28? (c) How does this encourage you during times of persecution, and when you stand up for the truth of God's Word?

6. (a) Looking back over question number one, how would Stephen's character qualities cause hatred from unbelievers? (b) What did Jesus say would happen to us in John 15:18-27? (c) If one is not receiving persecution from the world, what might it indicate according to these verses?

7. (a) Do you fear persecution? Why or why not? (b) How are you preparing yourself and your children to suffer righteously amidst persecution?

8. Are you suffering today because of your faith? Come with a prayer request for your persecutors. If you are not currently suffering, then come with a request for yourself, that you will be strong when that day comes.