

Bible Readings Book by Book week 42 – w/c 21/8/22

Week 42

Monday: Acts 5:17-42. Peter's response here after he was filled with the Holy Spirit is very different from his denial of Jesus in the early hours before the Crucifixion. Look at the attitude of the apostles in v41. Do you feel as they did and react accordingly if someone speaks against your faith?

Tuesday: Acts 6:1-15 The Jews were jealous over their law. They thought that Stephen was trying to attack the law of Moses. But when those in the Sanhedrin looked at Stephen, they could see that his face was like the face of an angel. This would have reminded them of Moses' shining face (Exodus 34:29-30). How did Stephen demonstrate stewardship and faithfulness?

Wednesday: Acts 7:1-38. To answer the charge against him, Stephen reviews Israel's history. He respects Moses and what God did in the past but uses Moses' words to point them to the more recent work of God and the prophet (Jesus) God had sent (v37). Are you in danger of focusing on what God did, instead of what he is doing now?

Thursday: Acts 7:37 - 8:1 God has not called us all to be martyrs, but he has called us to be living sacrifices (Romans 12:1-2). If we are living for Christ, we should be willing to die for him if that is what God calls us to do. In what ways would you like to be more like Stephen? How can you follow his example this week?

Friday: Acts 8:1-25. When Peter and John laid hands on them to receive the Spirit, something obvious happened - "saw" something take place (v18). Pentecostals affirm that what probably occurred was that they spoke in tongues, but one thing is clear: you cannot be filled with the Spirit without an obvious outward experience that you and everyone else can see. Have you been filled with the Spirit? Ask God to fill you afresh today!

Weekend: Acts 8:26-40 In Romans 10:17 we read that "faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." Philip helped the Ethiopian eunuch to understand the word of God and he came to faith. Who is God calling you to share your faith with? Who are you helping to disciple? Pray for a new boldness in sharing your faith today.