

# Acts Week 22

7:47-

We last left off as David wanted to build a place for God in verse 46 but in 47 we find, **“But Solomon built Him a house.”** Why was David not allowed to build the house for God? For this answer we must go back to 1 Chronicles 17:1-27. David was living in a very exclusive place, cedar wood was expensive. **When David called to Nathan for advice Nathan told him to go ahead, and do this, do all that is in your heart.** But the Lord came to Nathan at night and told him in 1 Chronicles verse 17:4, **“Go and tell My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: “You shall not build Me a house to dwell in.**

Now, let’s go to 1 Chronicles 22:8; **8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘You have shed much blood and have waged great wars. You shall not build a house to my name, because you have shed so much blood before me on the earth. Again in 1 Chronicles 28:3; 3 But God said to me, ‘You may not build a house for my name, for you are a man of war and have shed blood.’**

**1 Chronicles 1:6-9; Wherever I have moved about with all Israel, have I ever spoken a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people, saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?’ ”Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people Israel. 8 And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a name like the name of the great men who are on the earth. 9 Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously,**

The Lord was bringing a time of peace to Israel, not only that but we look here at the announcement of the coming King Jesus. No other ever was said to rule forever.

**1 Chronicles 17:10; Also I will subdue all your enemies. Furthermore I tell you that the LORD will build you a house. 11 And it shall be, when your days are fulfilled, when you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up your seed after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom. 12 He shall build Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever. 13 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son; and I will not take My mercy away from him, as I took it from him who was before you. 14 And I will establish him in My house and in My kingdom forever; and his throne shall be established forever.**

There is a difference between what we read in Acts and that of Chronicles. Observe, Acts provides a look of sternness, upset with Israel Stephen lectures God’s people. Demonstrating who God is in power and awesomeness, Stephen challenges Israel with questions such as who thinks they can build a house that would suit Me, referencing God.

**Acts 7:48** “However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says:

**49** ‘Heaven is My throne,

And earth is My footstool.

**What house will you build for Me? says the LORD,**

**Or what is the place of My rest?**

**50** Has My hand not made all these things?’

**Israel Resists the Holy Spirit**

**51** “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. **52** Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, **53** who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it.”

Much of what we study throughout the New Testament, although it sounds like praise it is not, it is the Apostles focusing on Israel’s shortfalls. Look here again at the reference of the uncircumcised heart and ears. This is Stephen condemning Israel.

**Acts 7:54-56; 54** When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. **55** But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, **56** and said, “Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” I suppose only Stephen was the only one God allowed to see His Son at His right hand which would have been an added insult. However, Stephen did not seem to hold contempt against those who would soon kill him, but asked the Father not hold this violation against them. **Verses 59-60; 59** And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” **60** Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” **And when he had said this, he fell asleep.** Even as we look at all the hearts of stone in our world today how many still reject our Lord God, how could the God of the bible who created all things allow wretched men to hate as they do? This is a question we need to be in constant prayer over, asking God to give us stronger voices that many would believe.

**Acts 8:1-3; 1** Now Saul (Paul) was consenting to his death.

**At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. 2** And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.

**3** As for Saul (Paul), he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison.

I asked the question yesterday on my Facebook, what would happen if all the elites, those who see themselves above everyone else in our world, were forced to do the task they demand of the people? That this small nucleus of arrogant people who are the planners of our future had to pick up weapons and go to war, how would they react? Our world is run not so much by our politicians but more so behind the scenes wizards who are an abomination to God the Father. What if we the multitudes shook hands and trusted each other and swore no more war?

These people who direct the world's future as Nick said last night are bound to evil and they see and hear nothing good, people such as Klaus Schwab, a self-appointed wretched man who believes he has the right to dictate to the world his plan. But it is even worse than just him, he has goats all around him praising him and seeing our world as the saviors of the world, people such as Bill Gates, John Kerry, Al Gore and others just like them. Do you want to show the world who the self-appointed privileged are? Show them the World Economic Forum, let them study these low life people who plot and plan behind the scene in the darkness of evil. Panic and fear are their tools empowered by lies. What we study in our bibles has all played out again and again throughout history and today we can identify those who are casting the stones seeking to destroy all who will not surrender to their wishes.

A pastor by the name of Florescu was tortured with red-hot iron pokers and with knives. He was beaten very badly. Then starving rats were driven into his cell through a large pipe. He could not sleep because he had to defend himself all the time. If he rested a moment, the rats would attack him. He was forced to stand for two weeks, day and night. ... Eventually, they brought his fourteen-year-old son to the prison and began to whip the boy in front of his father, saying that they would continue to beat him until the pastor said what they wished him to say. The poor man was half mad. He bore it as long as he could, then he cried to his son, "Alexander, I must say what they want! I can't bear your beating anymore!" The son answered, "Father, don't do me the injustice of having a traitor as a parent. Withstand! If they kill me, I will die with the words, 'Jesus and my fatherland'." The communists, enraged, fell upon the child and beat him to death, with blood spattered over the walls of the cell. He died praising God. Our dear brother Florescu was never the same after seeing this.<sup>1</sup>

This is the savageness that fills the hearts of many in our world today. Why, are Christians such a threat to evil that evil drives men to do such things. I sincerely believe God would not have our world this way but He allows evil to run its course and those who die for His Son are amongst the most treasured of all believers. As we look at Stephen's stoning we find it was the prominent leaders who performed the execution, those who were representing the religious values of the day.

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<sup>1</sup> Kengor, Paul. *The Devil and Karl Marx: Communism's Long March of Death, Deception, and Infiltration* (p. 128). TAN Books. Kindle Edition.