Acts 7:37-60 Study Guide for Ladies

Recap:Questions:

- According to **Acts 7:36,** what are the 3 things that "this man" (Moses) did "wonders and signs" in:
  - In the land of _____
  - In the _____ _____
  - In the _____ for forty years

Note: As we studied in last week's study guide, each plague was a judgement on Egypt's gods. God showed, by this judgement that they weren't really gods at all.

Write out **Isaiah 44:9-10** - _____
_____
_____

By each plague (judgement), what would all know? (**Exodus 6:6-7**). Then you will know that I am the _____.

The 10th plague, **Passover**, was to be remembered annually. A lamb was sacrificed and this **pointed to God's sacrificial lamb, Jesus (His Son)**, to take away our sins. Jesus died on Passover and by His death on the cross, paid for our sin. In the same way that the angel of death, "passed over" and those who followed God's Word were spared, so is every child of God who believes in Jesus as the Son of God.

According to **1 Corinthians 5:7**, what is Christ? - _____

Scriptures in Study Guide:

With that review, let's begin this week's study guide. Scriptures included are in the NIV (New International Version). To make things easier, the actual verses will be included in your daily lessons to help you with the missing words.

Day 1 (Acts 7:37-40)

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **Acts 7** out loud and answer the following questions below.

37 "This is the Moses who told the Israelites, 'God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your own people.'
38 He was in the assembly in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living words to pass on to us. **39** "But our ancestors refused to obey him. Instead, they rejected him and in their hearts turned back to Egypt. **40** They told Aaron, 'Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who led us out of Egypt—we don't know what has happened to him!'

Acts 7:37:

- "This is the _____ who told the Israelites, '____ will raise up for you a prophet _____ me from your own people.'
- **Questions**:
  - What did Moses tell the Israelites about what God would do? _____
  - Where was this "prophet" from? _____
- Write out **Deuteronomy 18:15:** _____
  _____
- According to **Deuteronomy 18:15,** what did Moses say Israel must do when this "prophet" like Moses was risen up? _____ to him.
- According to **Matthew 17:5** and **Luke 9:35,** what does God instruct us to do with His beloved Son)? _____ to Him.
- In **Deuteronomy 18:15,** what did Moses tell the Israelites to do when God raised up for them "a prophet like" Moses from their people? To _____ to Him.

Note: Stephen continues to make his point within this sermon as he indicts them with their own charges against Stephen. They say that Stephen is speaking against Moses and the Law, but he is showing them that by not listening to Jesus they, themselves are in violation of God's direction through Moses.

Day 1 (Acts 7:37-41); cont'd

Acts 7:38:

- He was ____ the assembly in the _____, with the angel who _____ to him on Mount _____, and with _____ ancestors; and he received_____ words to pass on to us.
- **Questions**:
  - When Moses was in the assembly in the wilderness, who spoke with Moses on Mount Sinai? _____
  - What did Moses receive on Mount Sinai that he passed on to the Israel nation (and in turn, us)? _____ words.
  - According to **Exodus 19:20,** where did God call Moses to come to Him? On _____
- According to **Acts 6:14**, Who did Stephen's accusers say Stephen said would "alter" the customs handed down by Moses? _____
- Looking back at our questions under **Acts 7:37**, Who did we say the "Prophet" was Who God raised up like Moses? (See also **John 4:26**) _____

Note: What Stephen is showing them through the Pentateuch (1st 5 books of the Bible, which God wrote through Moses) is that Moses' writings pointed to Jesus. And Jesus, Who was the Prophet that God raised up from among them was actually on Mount Sinai in His "pre-incarnate" (before He was in the flesh) form. And it was that "pre-incarnate" Jesus - the "angel" who spoke with Moses on Mount Sinai and spoke to their ancestors from Mt. Sinai (see **Exodus 19:9**). And the "living words that were passed on to "us" (meaning Stephen and every Jewish person) were given to Moses by the "Pre-incarnate" Jesus.

- Write out **John 1:3** - _____.

Verse 39:

- But _____ ancestors refused to _____ him. Instead, they _____ him and in their hearts _____ back to _____.
- **Questions:**
- According to **Acts 7:39**,
  - What did their ancestors refuse to do? _____
  - What did their ancestors do instead? _____
  - How did their ancestors reject him? _____
- Write out **Acts 7:38** - _____
  _____
- According to **Acts 7:38**,
  - when Moses was up on Mount Sinai and was with the pre-incarnate Jesus, what did Moses receive that was passed along to future generations? _____ _____
  - Who, then, was giving these living words to Moses' generation and the generations after? _____
- Based upon what you learned of Whose words these were, Who is the "him" referring to in Acts 7:39? _____
- What is blasphemy (This is what they were accusing Stephen of)? _____
- Who is Stephen saying, in **Acts 7:39**, that is refusing to obey God's word through Moses and rejecting God? _____
  - **Note:** These Jewish leaders pride themselves on their Jewish lineage of Abraham and Moses. Stephen is pointing out here that their ancestors before them rejected God's plan and messenger, who was Moses and the pre-incarnate Jesus, the same way they did Jesus Christ, the very Prophet that Moses spoke to their ancestors about.
- Write out **Deuteronomy 18:15** - _____
  _____

Verse 40:

- They _____ Aaron, 'Make _____ gods who will go _____ us.
- As for this fellow _____ who led us _____ of Egypt—we don't know what has _____ to him!'
- **Questions**:
- What does Stephen say that the Israelites, who are in the wilderness, tell Aaron (this is Moses' brother) to do? _____.
- Why did they want want Aaron to make gods who will go before them? _____
  _____
- **Note:** Moses' brother, Aaron was left in charge while Moses met with God on Mount Sinai.

Day 2 (Acts 7:41-43; Selected Scriptures)

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **Acts 7** out loud and complete the following verses and questions.

41 That was the time they made an idol in the form of a calf. They brought sacrifices to it and reveled in what their own hands had made.**42** But God turned away from them and gave them over to the worship of the sun, moon and stars. This agrees with what is written in the book of the prophets: "'Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings forty years in the wilderness, people of Israel? **43** You have taken up the tabernacle of Molek and the star of your god Rephan, the idols you made to worship. Therefore I will send you into exile' beyond Babylon.

Verse 41:

- That _____ the time they made an _____ in the form of a calf.
- They _____ sacrifices to it and _____ in what their _____ hands had _____.
- **Questions**:
- **Note:** When he begins **verse 14**, "That was the time", Stephen reminds them about what their rejection of God and His plan drove their ancestors to do.
- What did they make an idol in the form of? _____
- What did they bring to this "calf idol"? _____
- **Note:** Stephen says they "reveled in what their own hands had made. Here they're worshipping what they created - the "calf idol".
- Write out **Romans 1:25**:

  _____
  _____

- Write out **Exodus 20:3-4:**

  _____
  _____
  _____

Verse 42:

- But _____ turned away from them and _____ them _____ to the worship of the sun, moon and stars.
- This agrees _____ what is _____ in the book of the _____: "'Did you bring me _____ and offerings forty years in the _____, people of Israel?
- **Questions:**
- What did God do?
  - _____ _____ from them
  - _____ _____ over to the worship of _____
- Write out **Romans 1: 28** -

  _____
- What does Stephen say, in **Acts 7:42**, that their actions of making this golden calf and worshipping creation agrees with? Agrees with what is

  _____
- Read **Amos 5:25-27** (**note:** Amos was a prophet for God) and answer the following questions:
  - What does God question His people about in **Amos 5:25**?

    _____
  - Who did they make these idols for according to **Amos 5:26**?

    _____
  - According to **Amos 5:27**, where does God send them as a result of their idolatry?

    _____

Day 2 (Acts 7:41-43; Selected Scriptures); cont'd

Verse 43:

- You have _____ up the tabernacle of Molek and the star of _____ god Rephan, the _____ you made to _____.
- Therefore ____ will send you _____ exile' beyond Babylon.
- **Questions:**
- What were the "tabernacle of Molek and star of you god Rephan? The _____ they made to _____.
- Where did Stephen remind his Jewish listeners that God said He would send them? Into _____ beyond _____.
- Read **Deuteronomy 31:15-29** and answer the following questions:
    - In **Deuteronomy 31:16**, what does God tell Moses that the people will do when they enter the land?
      _____
    - In **Deuteronomy 31:17,** what does God tell Moses will come upon His people when they reject Him for other gods?_____
    - Why does God in **Deuteronomy 31:18**, hid His face? _____
    - When God tells Moses, in **Deuteronomy 31:21**, to write down a song about what His people will do when they possess the promised land, what does He say this song will do against them? _____
    - What does it mean to "testify against someone"? _____
    - Who, according to **Deuteronomy 31:21**, is this song written down for? _____ generations
    - According to **Deuteronomy 31:27**, how does Moses describe God's people? _____
    - Write out **Deuteronomy 31:29** -
      _____
      _____

Day 3 (Acts 7:44-50)

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **Acts 7** out loud and answer the following questions below.

44 "Our ancestors had the tabernacle of the covenant law with them in the wilderness. It had been made as God directed Moses, according to the pattern he had seen. **45** After receiving the tabernacle, our ancestors under Joshua brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out before them. It remained in the land until the time of David, **46** who enjoyed God's favor and asked that he might provide a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. **47** But it was Solomon who built a house for him. **48** "However, the Most High does not live in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says: **49** "'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord. Or where will my resting place be? **50** Has not my hand made all these things?'

Acts 7:44:
- Our _____ had the tabernacle of the _____ law with them _____ the _____.
- It_____ been made as _____ directed Moses, according _____ the pattern he had _____.
- **Questions**:
  - What did Stephen remind his fellow Jewish brethren that their ancestors had with them in the wilderness? _____ of the _____.
  - Stephen remind his listeners that Who made this "tabernacle of the covenant law"? _____
  - And who did God direct to make this "tabernacle of the covenant law"? _____
  - How was Moses suppose to make the "tabernacle of the covenant law" according to?
    - The _____ he had _____.
  - According to **Exodus 26:30,** what does God instruct Moses to set up according to the plan God showed Moses on the mountain? (For full context see **Exodus 26**? _____
  - According to **Acts 7:44**, Stephen reminds his fellow Jewish brethren that God instructed Moses to do this while their ancestors were still where? In the _____.

Acts 7:45-46:
- After _____ the tabernacle, our ancestors under _____ brought it with them _____ they took the land _____ the nations God _____ out before them. It remained in the land _____ the time of _____,
- who enjoyed God's _____ and asked that he might provide a _____ place _____ the God of Jacob..
- **Questions**:
  - According to **Acts 7:45,**
    - After their ancestors received the tabernacle in the wilderness (and the 40 years had passed of God's judgement on the nation), who did God have bring them into the land?_____
    - Who drove out the nations from before them when, under Joshua, they took the land? _____
    - Where does Stephen state God was in this driving out of their enemies? Before/behind them?____
    - **Write out Deuteronomy 31:8**: _____
    - How long did Stephen note that their ancestors stayed in this land that God gave them?
      - Until the time of _____
        - **Rough Timeline:** Israelites began entering/conquering the promised land around 1484 BC and David reigned until around 970 BC. This would mean that the Israelites had possession of the promised land about 514 years.
  - According to **Acts 7:46**,
    - Whose favor did David enjoy? _____

Day 3 (Acts 7:44-50); cont'd

Acts 7:46 (cont'd):

- What did David ask that he might provide for the "God of Jacob"? _____
  - **Reminder:** "Jacob" was the grandson of Abraham, renamed "Israel" by God, and had 12 sons who became the 12 patriarchs/tribes of Israel.
  - Who was David? (**see 2 Samuel 5:1-5**) _____
  - **Read 2 Samuel 7:12-13** and summarize what you learn about David and his relationship to Messianic prophecy:
    _____
    _____
  - How long will David's throne last (**see 2 Samuel 7:13**)? _____
- **Read Daniel 7:13-14 and answer the following questions:**
  - How did Daniel describe Who he saw coming with the clouds of heaven? _____
  - Who did Daniel see the "Son of Man" approach? "_____ of Days*
    - *this is God the Father on His throne
  - According to Daniel's vision in **Daniel 7:14**, what do you learn about the endurance of the dominion and kingdom given to the "Son of Man" by the "Ancient of Days"? _____

Note: This is the David that Stephen is referring to in his sermon. His hearers know that David was God's king over Israel and they know that their Messiah will come from David's line.

Acts 7:47:

- But it was _____ who built a _____ for him.
- **Questions**:
  - According to **Acts 7:47**, Stephen reminds his hearers that who was it that built a house for God? _____
  - **Summarize 1 Chronicles 22:7-10** -
    _____
    _____

Note: David, when Israel's king, fought many battles and was known as a "man of blood" (see **1 Chronicles 28:3)** and God told him that he was not allowed to built His physical temple. God told David, as you just read in 1 Chronicles 22, that it would be his son, Solomon. Stephen transitions at this point as he begins to make his final indictment to his prideful listeners. He will move from the physical to the spiritual. God gives us "glimpses" of the spiritual realm in the midst of our physical. This temple that God had Solomon built was a physical "type" of God's spiritual temple. This is what Stephen will end on in **Acts 7:48-50.**

Acts 7:48-50:

- "However, the _____ High does _____ live in _____ made by _____ hands.
- As the prophet _____: "'Heaven is my _____, and the earth is my _____.
- What _____ of house will you _____ for me? _____ the Lord.
- Or _____ will my resting _____ be?
- Has not _____ hand made _____ these things?'
- Questions:
- According to **Acts 7:48**, Stephen points out that the "Most High" does not live in houses made by what? _____
- Stephen quotes in **Acts 7:49** the prophet (Isaiah) that
  - What is God's throne? _____
  - What is God's footstool? _____
  - What are the questions that God asks?
    - What _____ of _____ will you _____ for me?
    - Or _____ will my _____ _____ be?
  - In **Acts 7:50**, Whose hand has made "all" these things? _____

Day 4-5 (Acts 7:51-60; Selected Scriptures)

As we near the end of Stephen's sermon before the Sanhedrin and move toward his direct indictment of their actions against God of crucifying their Messiah, God's Son, we see Stephen making the point that the created is not sufficient to make something for the Creator. This is why "works" and "good deeds" don't save us. Only God could pay our penalty and nothing that we do could be greater than His Work on the cross.

Pray God open your heart and understanding to what He would have you learn today from His Word.
Read **Acts 7** out loud and complete the following verses and questions.

51 "You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! **52** Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— **53** you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it." **54** When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. **55** But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. **56** "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." **57** At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, **58** dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. **59** While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." **60** Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 7:51:

- "You stiff-necked _____! Your hearts and _____ are _____ uncircumcised.
- You _____ just like _____ ancestors: You always _____ the Holy Spirit!
- **Questions:**
- What kind of "people" does Stephen call his Jewish brothers of the Sanhedrin? _____-necked.
- What does Stephen say their hearts and ears are? Still _____
- Who does Stephen say that his Jewish brothers are just like? Your _____
- Who are they resisting that their ancestors also resisted? The _____ _____
- Summarize **2 Kings 17:13-14:**

  _____
  _____
- Write out **2 Chronicles 30:8** -

  _____
  _____

Acts 7:52-53:

- Was there _____ a prophet your _____ did not persecute?
- They even _____ those who predicted the _____ of the Righteous One.
- And _____ you have betrayed and _____ him—
- you who have _____ the law that was given _____ angels but _____ not obeyed it."
- **Questions:**
- What did their ancestors do to every prophet that God sent to them? _____
- Their ancestors even killed those who predicted what? The _____ of the _____ _____
- And what does Stephen say that they, themselves, have now done to him (the Righteous One)? _____ and _____ him
- In **Acts 7:53**,
- Stephen says that they did this even though they received the law given through who? _____
- And what have they not done with that law? They have _____ _____ _____.

Day 4-5 (Acts 7:51-60; Selected Scriptures); cont'd

As we move through these final verses, we will compare the same indictment and different responses. When we studied **Acts 2**, we saw Peter indicting his Jewish listeners with the same charges.

Questions:

- In **Acts 2:36,** what does Peter indict (charge) his Jewish listeners (and all of the nation of Israel) of? _____
- What, in **Acts 2:37**, was the response of those Jewish listeners (what did they ask Peter)? _____
- Summarize Peter's response in **Acts 2:38-39:**
  _____
  _____

Write out **1 John 1:9** -

_____
_____

Note: Anyone can repent when they hear the truth - God will not turn away from a truly repentant heart. That message is very clear in how God relented in His judgement toward Nineveh in the book of Jonah. If a person, though, hardens their heart (many times through fleshly pride), the message will only fan the flames. This is what we will see in these final verses of **Acts 7**.

Acts 7:54:

- _____ the members of the _____ heard this, they _____ furious and gnashed their teeth _____ him.
- **Questions:**
- What was the Sanhedrin members reaction when they heard this?
  _____ and _____

Acts 7:55:

- But _____, full of the _____ Spirit, looked _____ to heaven and saw the _____ of God, and Jesus _____ at the right _____ of God.
- **Questions:**
- Who was Stephen full of? _____
- Where did Stephen look up to? _____
- What are the 2 things that Stephen saw?
  - The _____ of _____
  - _____ standing at the _____ hand of _____

Acts 7:56:

- _____," he said, "I see heaven _____ and the Son of Man _____ at the right _____ of God."
- **Questions:**
- When Stephen says "look", what does he say that he see opened up? _____
- And Who is standing at the right hand of God that he tells them that he sees? _____ of _____
- **Reminder:** "Son of Man" is a name for the Messiah. Their following reaction will show their rejection of Jesus as their Messiah.

Day 4-5 (Acts 7:51-60; Selected Scriptures); cont'd

Acts 7:57-58:

- At _____ they covered _____ ears and, yelling ___ the top of _____ voices, they all _____ at him,
- dragged him _____ of the city and _____ to stone him.
- _____, the witnesses _____ their coats at the _____ of a _____ man named _____.
- **Questions:**
- Once they heard Stephen's indictment of their guilty in crucifying their Messiah, what did they do?
    - _____ their ears
    - _____ at the _____ of their _____
    - they _____ _____ at him (Stephen).
- Where did they drag Stephen out of? _____
- Once they drug Stephen out of the city, what did they begin to do to him? _____ him
- Who did the witnesses lay their coats at the feet of? A young _____ named _____

Note: This is a pivotal moment in church history in many ways.

- It will move the church out and spread the gospel.
    - **Remember, in Acts 1:8,** Jesus told His disciples that they would be His "witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." In **Acts 5:28**, the apostles were criticized with "filling Jerusalem with their teaching". In **Acts 8:2**, we will learn that the apostles will stay in Jerusalem while the rest of the church will be scattered throughout Judea and Samaria" due to the "great persecution that broke out against the church in Jerusalem.
- It will allow for a "new convert" who Jesus will call directly in **Acts 9.**
    - This Saul will become the Apostle Paul who will write the largest portion of the New Testament.

Acts 7:59:

- While _____ were stoning him, Stephen _____, "Lord Jesus, receive my _____."
- **Questions:**
- While they were stoning Stephen, what did he pray for the Lord Jesus to do? _____
- Write out **2 Corinthians 5:8** -

_____

Acts 7:60:

- Then he _____ on his knees and _____ out, "Lord, do not _____ this sin against _____."
- When he had _____ this, he fell _____.
- **Questions:**
- When Stephen fell on his knees before he died, what did he pray for the Lord to do to those who were killing him? _____
- What did Jesus pray from His cross for His own murderers? (**see Luke 23:34**) _____
- What happened after Stephen said this prayer for his enemies? _____

Note the power of forgiveness (for it truly is the foundation of Christly love): Jesus prayed for his enemies and the thief on the cross was saved (**see Luke 23:42**) and here Stephen prays for his killers and God will mercifully save Saul (who will be Paul) in **Acts 9**.

Write out **Colossians 3:13** -

_____

_____