

Title: Profile in Courage - History 101 January 12, 2020

Text: Acts 7:1-53

Walk-In: Another sermon!!!! And a l-o-n-g one at that (though that is in comparison to the other sermons of Acts so far). So what is learned from this one that's different from the others before it? There are essentially two high points today from Stephen's defense before his accusers.

First, this sermon R_____ us of the P_____ and L_____ -S_____ nature of God toward stubborn people. Acts 7:1-50

If this was a symphony there would be several movements:

Movement No. 1 Abraham (vs. 1-8)

Movement No. 2 Joseph (vs. 9-16)

Movement No. 3 Moses (vs. 17-44)

Movement No. 4 et.al. (45-50)

- Joshua and David and Solomon (especially the Temple focus)

Secondly, this sermon W_____ us of the danger of R_____ the work of God.

What was the root evil in all this resistance to God's will? Why did they resist the Holy Spirit (v. 51)?

We resist by resting in our own W_____.
"They rejoiced in the works of their hands." (Vs.41)

We resist by W_____ anyone or anything other than God. (Vs. 48) *"The Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands."*

Wrap-up: Admittedly Stephen's message is a detailed and lengthy sermon. But it has two vital truths: God is persistently **patient** with us and we are persistently **resistant** to Him. Don't presume upon His patience by persisting in your resistance. The old hymn offers our plea:

Have Thine own way, Lord. Have Thine, own way.
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after Thy will.
While I am waiting yielded and still.