

The Death of Stephen

-17th Story-



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Narration After the resurrection of Jesus, the apostles preached the word of God even more diligently and many believed. The apostles chose seven men who would be responsible for looking after the church. Among them was a man full of faith, called Stephen. The name 'Stephen' means 'crown'.



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Narration Stephen did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people - like Jesus, he healed the sick and drove out demons. And so many people followed Stephen.

Sick Person1 Stephen~ my leg is hurting. Please heal my leg!

The Sick Heal me Stephen! I am also sick! Ugh~~~~ (sounds of pain)

Stephen Lord, please have mercy on these people and heal them~

Narration And so the sick were completely healed.

By the wisdom of God, Stephen clearly explained the word of God to the people.

So more and more people followed Stephen



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Narration Then one day, some people, who were jealous of Stephen, lied to the elders and teachers of the law.

Person 1 Stephen has lied about Moses and about God to people!

Leader of the Jews What?! Seize Stephen immediately!!

Narration Stephen was brought before the Sanhedrin. All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen; but Stephen's face was like the face of an angel.

Person 1 We have heard Stephen speak words of blasphemy against Moses and against God!

People Yes, that's right!

Narration At that time in Judaism, the punishment for breaking the word of God was death by stoning. Those who hated and were jealous of Stephen wanted him to be stoned to death. The elders and teachers of Judaism asked Stephen:



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Leader of the Jews Are these charges true?

Narration Stephen was not afraid. He began preaching the word of God with confidence.

Stephen Brothers and fathers, listen to me! Jesus died on the cross for his people. You who have received the law did not even obey it and you killed the Son of God who was sinless.

Narration When the people heard this, they were furious. But Stephen was not afraid of them.

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Narration Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and spoke:

Stephen Look, I see heaven open and the Jesus standing at the right hand of God!

Narration At this, the people yelled at the top of their voices and all rushed at Stephen. They dragged him out of the city and began to throw stones at him!

Thrower1 Stephen, you liar!! Argh!!

Thrower2 You have blasphemed against God!

Thrower3 You deserve to die!!

Narration Stephen knelt and prayed.

Stephen Lord, receive my spirit and do not hold this sin against them!

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Narration Eventually Stephen died. Stephen preached the word of God until he died. So Stephen became the first man to give his life for the early church



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