

THE BOOK OF *Acts*

|| Group Discussion Guide ||

Acts 7:35-43

March 3, 2024

STEPHEN'S SPEECH, PART 4: AARON

1

Stephen emphasizes that Israel rejected the man God had sent to them. They specifically rejected him as “ruler and judge” despite the fact that he was “performing wonders and signs.” What parallels can we detect between the rejection of Moses and the rejection of Jesus?

2

Stephen mentions that Moses had told the Israelites, “God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers” (v. 37). Who is this referring to, and why might Stephen have included this prophecy here?

3

The council has accused Stephen of blaspheming the law, but Stephen describes how Moses “received living oracles to give to us” (v. 38). What does this indicate about his attitude toward the law?

4

How should Christian believers understand the law in a New Testament context? What should our attitude be toward the law?

5

According to Stephen’s account, what motivated the Israelites to turn to idol worship? Is there a suggestion that the council of his day could also be prone to idolatry?

6

Can believers today be tempted to commit idolatry? Does idol worship always mean creating graven images?

7

Stephen cites Amos 5:25-27 to demonstrate the result of Israel's idolatry: exile. Why is exile a logical consequence of idol worship?

8

God turned away and gave them over:" how does this phrase demonstrate the results of human sinfulness? Can we see the effects of this in the world in which we live?

