

Acts 6

Questions

1. What problem arose in the Jerusalem church as it continued to grow (6:1)?
2. How was this problem solved and what kind of men were chosen (6:3)?
3. What did the apostles continue doing (6:2, 4)?
4. What men were selected to serve (minister) and how was Stephen described (6:5-6; see also 6:8, 10; 7:55)?
5. How did Luke describe the growth of the church (6:7)?
6. What work did Stephen perform in addition to ministering to the needy saints (6:8-10)?
7. What did the Jews do when they could not answer Stephen's preaching (6:11-12)?
8. What false charges were brought against Stephen (6:13-14)?
9. Where was Stephen at this time and what did his face look like (6:15)?

Digging Deeper

1. Who were the "Grecian Jews" (or "Hellenists") and the "Hebrews" and what might have been the cause of their murmuring (6:1)?

2. What was the “daily ministrations” (6:1; see 2:44-45; 4:34)?
3. What can be said about the names of the men who were selected to serve (6:5)?
4. What was the act of “laying on of hands” (6:6; see also 13:3) and was its purpose any different from what was done in Acts 8:17?
5. What was “the synagogue of the Libertines” and where are countries mentioned in this verse located (6:9)?

Applications for Today

1. The needs of church members should never be neglected (6:1; 2 Chron. 29:11; Jer. 48:10).
2. There is always a need for Christian men who are willing to serve and minister to the needs of other Christians in the local church (6:2-6; 1 Tim. 3:10).
3. The preaching of the word should never be neglected while trying to minister to the needs of others (6:2, 4; 1 Tim. 4:6).
4. Congregational meetings from time-to-time are good to discuss the needs of the local church (6:2, 5; Acts 14:27).
5. We need Christians today like Stephen who are “full of the Spirit”, “full of faith”, and “full of grace” (6:3, 5, 8; Jn. 1:14; Acts 7:55; 11:24).
6. God’s word will always increase and never be bound (6:7; Acts 12:24; 19:20).
7. We are not saved by “faith only”. We are saved when we have an “obedience of faith” that is “obedient to the faith” (6:7; Rom. 1:5; 16:26).
8. The Lord’s church can grow (2:47; 4:5, 5:14; 6:1, 7) even when it faces problems and obstacles from without (Acts 4-5) and from within (Acts 5-6).
9. Truth will always prevail (6:8-10; 2 Cor. 2:14).

10. Just because people make charges against another doesn't mean that those charges are true (6:11-15; Mt. 26:59-60).