

Sermon Series: Acts: The Church on Fire

Acts 6: 8-7; 53 *Rejecting God*

***Rejecting Christ is rejecting God's plan for salvation.**

=>Formula for studying history: Cause-Event-Change (always about people)

I. A Dispute with Religion

- A. Stephen seized
- B. Dispute with members of the Freedman's Synagogue =>Synagogue?
- C. Could not dispute with his wisdom
 - 1. His wisdom and the Spirit
 - 2. "He's too smart and too good"
 - 3. Stirred up witnesses against him
- D. Not searching for truth but for personal justification

II. A Dispute with God

- A. A History of Israel
- B. Abraham and the Patriarchs
- C. Moses and the prophets
- D. Tent of witness
- E. Stephen: "You are now rejecting the Christ"
 - 1. They were looking for a person, place, and thing for God's salvation. (Messiah, Jerusalem/Israel, temple)
 - 2. Rejecting Christ is rejecting God's plan for salvation**
 - 3. What is God's plan for salvation: Acts 4:12. Only in the person of Christ

III. A Dispute with Salvation

- A. Consequences of rejecting salvation: separation from God (eternally)
- B. Causes people to go against the things of God
- C. They want to remove Christ but separate from God instead.
- D. Gamaliel warned about this earlier

IV. Live It Out

- A. Have you discovered the truth of Christ or do you live your life thinking you are right?

- B. Are you blind to the evidence of God working or are you following Him because of it?
- C. Have you accepted or rejected a personal relationship with Christ? (To not accept or reject
- D. =>Not just a belief like George Washington or not. It's the matter of believing you had ancestors or not. It's personal!