1Thess #132

Resistance of the Holy Spirit.

We will keep Taylor and Pastor Kabrick’s family in prayer along with Hawaii and Tim and Christina as I opened with last lesson.

Today we will be in Acts chapter seven RF.

We see the term *Resistance of the* *HS,* and honestly that is a soft term - it is truly obstinance against the HS.

This is a stubbornness, or as the Bible often refers to it as a stiff-necked attitude.

We have begun a series on the sins against the HS which is related to the CA dispensation we now live in.

As I mentioned last lesson in other dispensations these sins existed, it is just that within the CA the ministry and protocol of God the HS is operating differently.

This is where we began last lesson and as a reminder this is what our series will be covering;

/Within accurate Church Age theology we can note 5 sins against the Holy Spirit;

Blasphemy against HS, (Mat 12:14-32)

Resistance of the HS, (Acts 7:51)

Lying to the HS, (Acts 5:3)

Grieving the HS, (Eph 4:30)

Quenching the HS, (1Thes 5:19)\

Last lesson you got a glimpse at a term known as – *Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit,* which is highlighted in Matthew chapter 12.

Its proper context and use, was seen during the ministry of Jesus Christ prior to the cross. Today we will note – *Resistance against the HS,* which points to an obvious arrogance and stubbornness that should not be candy coated or spoon fed.

In the end it is the difference between spending eternity in the presence of our LORD or forever separated from GOD within a lake of fire in everlasting torment.

As many of you may know Acts seven covers the kangaroo court trial of the first deacon of the church. This is whenStephen’s defense is on display, as the Sanhedrin tried to put him on trial for speaking the truth of Jesus Christ.

What they got was an incredible history lesson in the arrogance of Israel and religious nonsense most people get involved in.

Deacon Stephen spoke boldly to the high priest in his defense by retelling the story of Abraham first and then the Exodus generation…it’s a full history lesson with painful details, they probably didn’t want to hear.

/Act 7:40 saying to Aaron, **‘MAKE US A GOD WHO WILL GO BEFORE US**; FOR THIS MOSES WHO LED US OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT—**WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM**.’

Mankind’s OSN has a short memory and deep need for self-satisfaction with immediate gratification always front and center!\

The Exodus generation loved the security of the slavery in Egypt - the typology in scripture is Egypt represents a type of the cosmic system today.

Most people (Bel and Unbel) talk about freedom and having a relationship with God. Yet they want it on their own terms, and they do not want the responsibility of real freedom and the call to follow GOD.

 REPEAT

Stephen knew his Bible-

/Exo 32:1 Now when the people saw that **Moses delayed to come down from the mountain**, the people assembled around Aaron and said to him, “Come, **make us a god** who will go before us; for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt—we do not know what happened to him.”\

This is after the ten plagues GOD brought upon Egypt.

After they walked across the Red Sea, then witnessed Pharaoh’s army crushed under the waves that GOD, in His supernatural, overriding will held up for them.

[Act 7:41](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/41/s_1025041) “At that time they made a calf and brought a sacrifice to the idol, and were rejoicing in the works of their hands.

Notice - rejoicing at the works of their hands!

/[Act 7:42](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/42/s_1025042) “But **God turned away** and **gave them over to serve the heavenly lights**; as it is written in the book of the prophets: ‘YOU DID NOT OFFER ME VICTIMS AND SACRIFICES FOR FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS, DID YOU, HOUSE OF ISRAEL?

*Stratia Ouranos****-*** The host of angels, heavenly beings of light, angelic forces or heavenly army. This points directly to fallen angels. \

STRAT-TEE-AH ORN-AH-NAS, this is pointing to angelic beings more specifically fallen angels.

God allowed mankind to worship fallen angels again. Even after the Genesis six debacle of Nephilim that came from that form of worship.

What God had stopped with the flood was the copulation of fallen angels and human women. Because God had already imprisoned the fallen angels who stepped over that physical boundary.

Showing us that GOD will allow mankind and even Bels to do as they please with their freedom – even to worship satanic creatures and dark arts.

/When mankind (Bel or Unbel) presses hard against the power and plan of GOD, they eventually get what they pushed for (Rom 1:20-32). To be obstinate when God the HS is working to wake you up or assist you in your spiritual walk is the recipe for incredible misery. For the Unbel it is the path into the Lake of Fire.\

This answers a great many questions as to why Bels get involved in evil and why is there chaos and criminal activity on every city street corner.

/God’s first divine establishment was freedom in the form of free will – GOD did not create robots. Contrary to some theology and denominational dogma, free will is real and active each and every day within everyone’s life. Bel or Unbel your decisions have consequences; real freedom means real responsibility! Real freedom is the opposite of chaos, it is filled with sacrifice, effort and restrictive standards. \

Contrary to what the young, progressive Marxists believe today – freedom is not relative truth, it is not every man and woman gets whatever they want, or mob rule.

Only fair and just law and order along with military strength, bring freedom in a world filled with satanic influence and fallen creatures.

/[Act 7:43](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/43/s_1025043) ‘YOU ALSO **TOOK ALONG THE TABERNACLE OF MOLOCH AND THE STAR OF YOUR GOD ROMPHA**, THE IMAGES WHICH YOU MADE TO WORSHIP. I ALSO WILL DEPORT YOU **BEYOND BABYLON**.’

The fifth cycle of discipline began because Israel kept consistently rejecting God’s plan and running back into HIS plan. They never truly let go of satanic influences – it was a vicious cycle of rebellion & return.\

It began in the Garden and kept recycling itself because mankind left to their own nature is corrupt.

The reason you see the term – BEYOND BABYLON, is because that was a beginning point of the 5th cycle. We have a completion of discipline after the pause of the CA dispensation. That is what the 7 years of Tribulation represents.

/Moloch was the god of the Canaanites in which the Amorites offered their children, this spilled over to many cultures and the Israelites at different points fell into Moloch worship as well. The Egyptians worshipped about 40 gods, all of these false gods were derived from fallen angels and Nephilim worship. *THE STAR OF YOUR GOD ROMPHA,* was the Egyptian god of Saturn. \

ROMPHA is actually the god of Saturn it is pronounced REYE-FON. Some of the Exodus generation never let go of the symbols of the god of Saturn.

Even when they were rescued from Egyptian slavery, they kept worshipping that symbolism.

Prov 26:11 Like a dog that returns to its vomit, So is a fool who repeats his foolishness.

There is nothing in the cosmic system that has any eternal value for any of us!

Stephen is publicly speaking out to the Sanhedrin about their own arrogance and stubbornness within documented history. This is called truth bombs!

/The original statue of Moloch was an ox-headed statue with two paws which extended out. Under these paws was a furnace and the children were put on the two paws and burned to death. The children screamed, and so they had a drum that they would beat to drown out the screams of the children.\

The Hebrew word for that drum is *toph*. So, one of the Hebrew words for hell is *tophet—*hell with the emphasis on the screams of the unbelievers forever.

[Act 7:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/44/s_1025044) “Our fathers had the tabernacle of testimony in the wilderness, just as He who spoke to Moses directed *him* to make it according to the pattern which he had seen.

[Act 7:45](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/45/s_1025045) “Our fathers in turn received it, and they also brought it in with Joshua upon dispossessing the nations that God drove out from our fathers, until the time of David.

[Act 7:46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/46/s_1025046) “David found favor in God’s sight, and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob.

[Act 7:47](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/47/s_1025047) “But it was Solomon who built a house for Him.

/[Act 7:48](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/48/s_1025048) “However, **the Most High does not dwell in houses** made by human hands; as the prophet says:

This had to enflame the Scribes and Pharisees because it was a direct attack on a large portion of their religious rituals, buildings, objects and appearances. \

[Act 7:49](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/49/s_1025049) ‘HEAVEN IS MY THRONE,
AND THE EARTH IS THE FOOTSTOOL OF MY FEET; WHAT KIND OF HOUSE
WILL YOU BUILD FOR ME?’ says the Lord, ‘OR WHAT PLACE IS THERE FOR MY REST?

You may have never studied the first Deacon of the church Stephen, but I can tell you he was compassionate, long suffering and yet bold as a lion.

Stephen understood the two power options and applied them on a level that all Bels should aspire too.

[Act 7:50](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/50/s_1025050) ‘WAS IT NOT MY HAND THAT MADE ALL THESE THINGS?’

/[Act 7:51](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/51/s_1025051) “**You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart** and ears are **always resisting the Holy Spirit**; you are doing just as your fathers did.

*Sklērotrachēlos-* stiff-necked, fierce arrogance, an attitude which refuses to move in a given direction. \

SKRAY-LA-TOK-ULUS, is used once in the original Greek, it has a root word it comes from that means fierce or very hardened.

It is the height of stubbornness.

[Act 7:52](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/52/s_1025052) “Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, and you have now become betrayers and murderers of Him;

The OT prophets were all attacked and ridiculed by many of the Israelites. Stephen highlights John the Baptist and then TLJC in this one statement.

[Act 7:53](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/53/s_1025053) you who received the Law as ordained by angels, and *yet* did not keep it.”

Now look how the political and religious leaders with all the intelligence and resources of wealth and prestige react.

/Act 7: 54 Now when **they heard this, they were infuriated,** and they began gnashing their teeth at him.

This is what Jesus meant in Matt 10:34-39, HIS mind (BD – truth) is so decisive and singular in power and accuracy that it makes you pick a side. It will bring division because you have to make a choice.\

Truth is singular it is not relative to how you feel in any given moment.

[Act 7:55](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/55/s_1025055) But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

[Act 7:56](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/56/s_1025056) and he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

This is a portion of dying grace – when the mature Bel who is dying, no matter how difficult, they have a focus and contact with Christ in a very intimate fashion.

/[Act 7:57](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/57/s_1025057) But **they shouted** with loud voices, and **covered their ears** and rushed at him with one mind.

Legalism connected to religious or political preferences, develops an unforgiving standard of self-righteousness. Obstinance becomes so strong and thick that blatant truth will not penetrate it. \

It is a form of scar tissue on the soul.

No amount of truth or time will penetrate that hard heart of scar tissue.

In fact, the more you present truth to this type of person, the more frustrated and agitated they get.

Act 7:58 When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning *him;* and the witnesses laid aside their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul.

This is Saul of Tarsus – who later will be known as the Apostle Paul.

Saul of Tarsus was an aggressive, young Pharisee, who had Christians beaten, jailed and murdered in front of their families.

A perfect candidate for the plan of God.

This will be the man who later on will write the majority of the NT.

Do not ever assume you know who GOD will choose for leadership or to become an invisible hero in the future.

[Act 7:59](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/59/s_1025059) They *went on* stoningStephen as he called on *the Lord* and said, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!”

[Act 7:60](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/act/7/60/s_1025060) Then he fell on his knees and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them!” Having said this, he fell asleep.

Stephen died as a reflection of Jesus Christ upon the cross – wrongly convicted, wrongly accused and put to death for the truth of the WORD of God.

This is the first recorded Christian murder after the cross of Christ.

There may be no greater role model in the early CA dispensation then Stephen.

/Resistance against the Holy Spirit ensures the Unbel will live a life now and then in everlasting time, separated from God. Resistance against the Holy Spirit ensures a Bel begins a journey in reaping what they sow, usually followed by divine discipline. In the worst-case scenario, when they have not repented and turned themselves around, the sin unto death is the end result. \

The protocol for success in the CA is to apply the two power options to our lives daily.

Stephen was an example left for us!

Stephens last words and death display the fact that the Bel will be face to face with LORD after the temporal body is gone.

/2Cor 5:6 Therefore, being of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord— 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight— 8 but we are of good courage and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.\