

## Notes - Book of Acts Study, Part 29 – Wednesday, August 26, 2020

Acts 6:1-7

<sup>1</sup> *In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.* <sup>2</sup> *So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.* <sup>3</sup> *Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them* <sup>4</sup> *and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”*

<sup>5</sup> *This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.* <sup>6</sup> *They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.*

<sup>7</sup> *So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.*

*Satan wants to divide and conquer the church.*

*Divisiveness is not from the Holy Spirit!*

Ephesians 4:2-6

<sup>2</sup> *Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.* <sup>3</sup> *Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.* <sup>4</sup> *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called;* <sup>5</sup> *one Lord, one faith, one baptism;* <sup>6</sup> *one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

1 Timothy 5:3

<sup>3</sup> *Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need.*

James 1:27

<sup>27</sup> *Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*

*There is no hierarchy in church work!*

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

*<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.*

1 Corinthians 12:12-18

*<sup>12</sup> Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. <sup>15</sup> Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.*

*In the Kingdom of God, all acts of service in the church are spiritual acts.*

Numbers 8:10

*<sup>10</sup> You are to bring the Levites before the LORD, and the Israelites are to lay their hands on them.*

1 Timothy 4:14

*<sup>14</sup> Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.*

*A disciple is a follower or student of a teacher or leader.*