



Smith Rock
COMMUNITY CHURCH

acts

OF THE APOSTLES

Sermon notes
and
study guide

For the week of
21st March 2021
“Limitations”



Limitations

Acts 6:8-8:3 or page 860 in a church bible.

Main points

1. P _____ **we A** _____

9 For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars.”

2 Chronicles 16:9 (ESV)

2. P _____ **we A** _____

237 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as

a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 38 See, your house is left to you desolate. 39 For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.' ”

Matthew 23:37–39 (ESV)

3. P _____ we A _____

14 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in Scripture:

*“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be
put to shame.”*

1 Peter 2:4–6 (ESV)

WHAT NEXT?



What have you heard God say to you this morning and what are you going to do with what you heard?

What was the main point of the sermon?

What stood out for you in this text.

**What is one thing you are going to do with what you
heard this next week**

18 And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. 9 Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. 10 But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. 11 Then they secretly instigated men who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." 12 And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, 13 and they set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, 14 for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us." 15 And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel. 7 And the high priest said, "Are these things so?"

Acts 6:8–7:1 (ESV)

54 Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. 55 But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." 57 But they cried out with a loud voice and

stopped their ears and rushed together at him. 58 Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

8 And Saul approved of his execution.

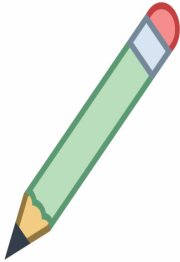
And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. 2 Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. 3 But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

Acts 7:54–8:3 (ESV)

Sermon notes

for kids

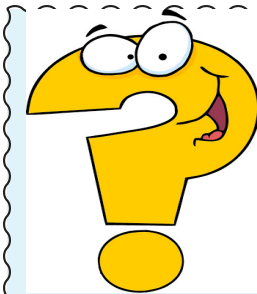
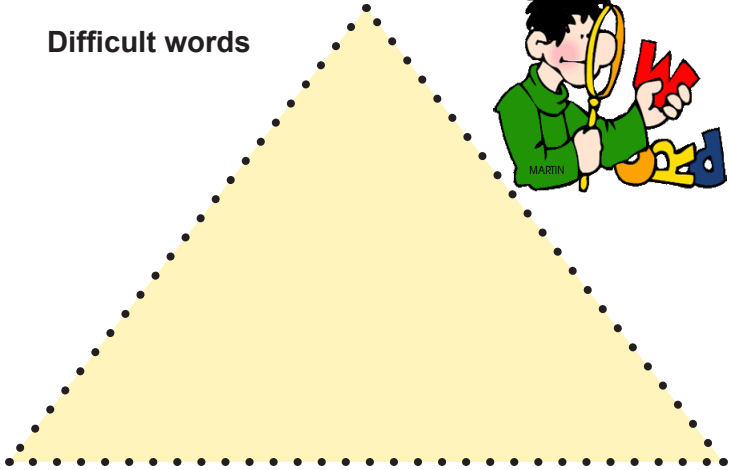
Favourite song today



Draw a picture from the sermon

NAME OF THE BOOK

Difficult words



Questions

Today I learned

Handwriting practice lines consisting of five horizontal lines on a light orange background.



Further study for *Groups and individuals*

Review

Look back at last week's sermon notes and take a moment to review what you wrote you were going to take action on.

How did it go? _____

What did you learn? _____

What restrictions have been the worst for you the last year? _____

Are there other limitations you are facing right now that you find hard to deal with? _____

What do you do and where do you turn to when you find yourself finding uinvited limitations? _____

Why was it in verse 7:8 the disputers could not stand against Stephen? _____

Jesus tells His disciples:

14 Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.

Luke 21:14–15 (ESV)

Does this mean we should not think about and prepare at all for what we should say when we are going to have discussions with opposing points of view?

Philip on meeting Jesus goes to find his friend Nathanael;
45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”
46 Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

John 1:45–46 (ESV)

What do you suppose limited Nathanael’s view of where God was working? _____

Is there a place you think it is impossible for God to be heard or to work _____

?

What does this tell us about how to choose someone to address a complaint? _____

Read Exodus 2:11-15. Why do you think Moses was not recognised as God's deliverer? _____

What reasons would make you disapprove of someone saying they had been sent from God.

Read;

Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

2 *For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.*

3 *He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*

Isaiah 53:1–3 (ESV)

Why didn't the Jewish leadership approve of Jesus and Stephen who preached about Him? _____

What was the one Jewish custom that made them distinct as God's people? _____

What customs do people practice today which makes them distinct? _____

In Romans 12 Pauls says;

12 For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

Romans 2:12 (ESV)

What does this mean no matter what custom we might practice? _____

Paul again in Romans tells them;

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16 (ESV)

What does this mean for everyone no matter what their customs might be? _____

