

# Acts 7:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying,  
Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

## Analysis

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The wrongdoer's rejection of Moses' authority ('Who made you a ruler and judge?') reveals humanity's natural rebellion against God-appointed leadership. This question would be ironically answered forty years later when God Himself appointed Moses at the burning bush. Stephen's speech emphasizes Israel's pattern of rejecting God's chosen leaders - Moses, the prophets, and ultimately Jesus Christ. The Reformed view sees total depravity manifested in mankind's resistance to divine authority, even when exercised for their deliverance.

## Historical Context

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This confrontation forced Moses to flee Egypt, becoming a fugitive. The rejection by his own people, whom he sought to help, must have been particularly bitter, yet it was part of God's sovereign preparation.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does this question anticipate Israel's later rejection of judges, prophets, and Christ?
2. What does human rejection of God-appointed authority reveal about the fallen heart?
3. How should we respond when our service for others meets with ingratitude or rejection?

## Interlinear Text

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ὁ δὲ ἀδικῶν τὸν πλησίον ἀπόσας αὐτὸν εἰπὼν  
G3588 But he that did G3588 his neighbour away G683 him G846 saying G2036  
G1161 G91 G4139

Τίς σε κατέστησεν ἄρχοντα καὶ δικαστὴν ἐφ' ἡμᾶς  
Who thee made a ruler and a judge over us  
G5101 G4571 G2525 G758 G2532 G1348 G1909 G2248

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 7:35** (Judgment): This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.

**Luke 12:14** (Judgment): And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?