

# Acts 7:52

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

## Analysis

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Stephen's indictment intensifies: 'Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted?' Israel's treatment of prophets culminated in killing 'the Just One' - Jesus. The audience represents the culmination of prophet-persecution reaching its climax in Christ's murder.

## Historical Context

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Prophetic persecution was well-documented - Elijah fled Jezebel, Jeremiah was imprisoned, Zechariah was stoned (2 Chronicles 24:21). Jesus referenced this pattern (Matthew 23:37).

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. Why did Israel consistently reject and persecute God's messengers?
2. How does the pattern of prophet-persecution climax in Jesus' crucifixion?

## Interlinear Text

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τίνα	τοῦ	προφητῶν	οὐκ	ἐδίωξαν	τοῦ	πατέρες
Which	them which	of the prophets	not	have	them which	fathers
G5101	G3588	G4396	G3756	G1377	G3588	G3962
ὑμῶν	καὶ	ἀπέκτειναν	τοῦ	προκαταγγείλαντας	περὶ	
your	and	they have slain	them which	shewed before	of	
G5216	G2532	G615	G3588	G4293	G4012	
τοῦ	ἐλεύσεως	τοῦ	δικαίου	οὗ	νῦν	ὑμεῖς
them which	the coming	them which	of the Just One	of whom	now	ye
G3588	G1660	G3588	G1342	G3739	G3568	G5210
προδόται	καὶ	φονεῖς	γεγέννησθε·			
the betrayers	and	murderers	have been			
G4273	G2532	G5406	G1096			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 5:12** (Prophecy): Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

**1 Kings 19:10** (Prophecy): And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

**2 Chronicles 36:16** (Prophecy): But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy.

**1 Thessalonians 2:15** (Prophecy): Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men:

**Jeremiah 2:30** (Prophecy): In vain have I smitten your children; they received no correction: your own sword hath devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion.

**Revelation 19:10** (Prophecy): And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

**Acts 22:14** (Righteousness): And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

**1 John 2:1** (Righteousness): My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

**Nehemiah 9:26** (Prophecy): Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled against thee, and cast thy law behind their backs, and slew thy prophets which testified against them to turn them to thee, and they wrought great provocations.