

Acts 7:56

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

Analysis

Stephen's vision - 'I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God' - echoed Jesus' claim before this same body (Mark 14:62). The 'Son of man' title connected to Daniel 7:13-14's heavenly figure. Jesus standing (not seated) suggests He rose to receive His martyred witness.

Historical Context

Jesus' claim to sit at God's right hand led to His condemnation for blasphemy. Stephen's parallel vision claiming to see Jesus there provoked identical rage.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does Jesus 'standing' suggest about His response to Stephen's martyrdom?
2. How does Stephen's vision confirm Jesus' earlier claims before this same council?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	εἶπεν	Ἰδού,	θεωρῶ	τοὺς	οὐρανοὺς	ἀνεωγμένους	καὶ
And	said	Behold	I see	G3588	the heavens	opened	And
G2532	G2036	G2400	G2334		G3772	G455	G2532
τὸν	υἱὸν	τοῦ	ἀνθρώπου	ἐκ	δεξιῶν	ἐστῶτα	τοῦ
G3588	the Son	G3588	of man	on	the right hand	standing	G3588
	G5207		G444	G1537	G1188	G2476	
θεοῦ							
of God							
G2316							

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 11:19 (References God): And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

Revelation 19:11 (Parallel theme): And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Acts 10:11 (Parallel theme): And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

Matthew 3:16 (References God): And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

Revelation 4:1 (Parallel theme): After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Acts 10:16 (Parallel theme): This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

