

Acts 7:58

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

Analysis

They 'cast him out of the city' before stoning - following Levitical protocol for execution outside the camp (Leviticus 24:14). The witnesses laying their clothes 'at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul' introduces Paul. Stephen's death and Saul's presence plant seeds for Christianity's greatest missionary.

Historical Context

Stoning was Jewish execution for blasphemy. Witnesses bore primary responsibility for initiating the stoning. Saul's presence and approval (Acts 8:1) later became part of his testimony.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How might Stephen's death have influenced Saul's later conversion?
2. What does execution 'outside the city' connect to Jesus' crucifixion outside Jerusalem?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐκβαλόντες ἔξω τῆς πόλεως ἐλιθοβόλουν καὶ
And cast him out of the city and stoned And
G2532 G1544 G1854 G3588 G4172 G3036 G2532
οἱ μάρτυρες ἀπέθεντο τὰ ιμάτια αὐτῶν παρὰ τοὺς
the witnesses laid down clothes at
G3588 G3144 G659 G3588 G846 G3844 G3588
πόδας νεανίου καλουμένου Σαύλου
feet a young man's whose name was Saul
G4228 G3494 G2564 G4569

Additional Cross-References

Acts 22:20 (Parallel theme): And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.

Acts 8:1 (Parallel theme): And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

Acts 6:13 (Witness): And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

Acts 22:4 (Parallel theme): And I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.

Deuteronomy 17:7 (Witness): The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So thou shalt put the evil away from among you.

Luke 4:29 (Parallel theme): And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.

1 Kings 21:13 (Witness): And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died.

Numbers 15:35 (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp.

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