

The Church Is Unwavering in Persecution

Acts 6:8-8:3

May 29, 2016

It is difficult to face unfounded accusations because it is hard to logically and coherently rebuff charges that are not grounded in fact. The difficulty is compounded when one is presumed guilty and the accusation is framed in such a way as to provide a response that could be easily misconstrued. In the text today, Stephen, one of the seven newly ordained deacons, is forced to face unfounded accusations. His response reveals how to be unwavering in persecution.

I. A _____ (6:8-15)

“Therefore make up your minds not to prepare your defense ahead of time, ¹⁵for I will give you such words and a wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict.” Luke 21:14-15

“Don’t assume that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.” Matthew 5:17

“But they could not find any, even though many false witnesses came forward. Finally, two who came forward ⁶¹stated, ‘This man said, ‘I can demolish God’s sanctuary and rebuild it in three days.’” Matthew 26:60-61

Walking
Point:

C _____ in C _____ !

II. R_____ (7:1-53)

“But will God indeed live on earth?
Even heaven, the highest heaven, cannot
contain You,
much less this temple I have built.”
1 Kings 8:27

“...holding to the form of godliness but
denying its power. Avoid these people!”
2 Timothy 3:5

Walking Point:	C_____ in C_____!
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III. P_____ (7:54-60)

“Therefore, everyone who will acknowledge
Me before men, I will also acknowledge him
before My Father in heaven.” Matthew 10:32

“When this corruptible is clothed with
incorruptibility, and this mortal is clothed with
immortality, then the saying that is written will
take place: Death has been swallowed up in
victory.

⁵⁵Death, where is your victory?
Death, where is your sting?

⁵⁶Now the sting of death is sin, and the
power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God,
who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus
Christ!” 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

Walking Point:	C_____ in C_____!
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