

# RESISTING THE HOLY SPIRIT

Jesus said there is one unpardonable sin.

**Mt 12:31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.**

Even John warned about the dangers of some sins.

**1Jo 5:16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. See also 1 Cor. 11:30**

## **Stiff-necked**

**Acts 7:51 Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.**

The Jews took great pride in their lineage. Stephen showed the history of their lineage: stubbornness, hearts that have never repented, and minds unable to receive. Except for the occasional prophet the people of Israel resisted God repeatedly. The Jews of Stephen's time were just like their ancestors.

## **The Just One**

**52 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:**

Stephen challenged the Council to name one prophet the Jews did not persecute. Samuel, Jeremiah, Elijah, and others prophesied of Jesus, but they were resisted. And only recently had this very same council betrayed and murdered Jesus Christ.

## **Have not kept it (the law).**

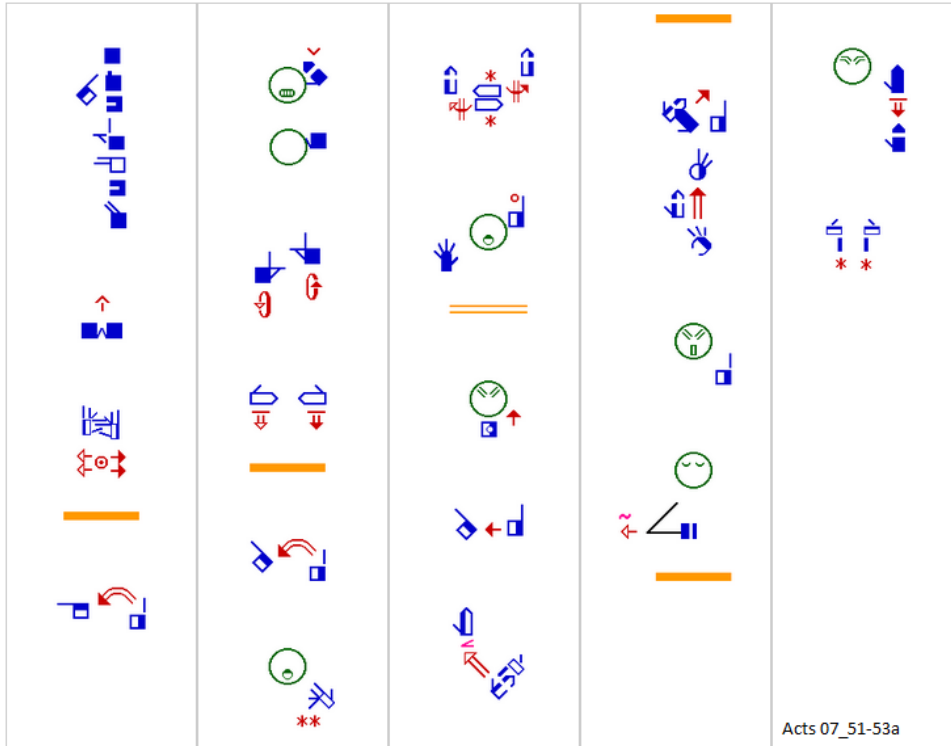
**53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.**

The Law was brought to Israel by angels, but that very Law, that they knew was from God, they did not obey. The Ten Commandments were not ten suggestions. No one can be saved through the Law, through the Law we know the meaning of sin, but God still expects obedience to His Law. And God shows us how.

**Ga 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.**

It is much easier to resist, run from, and deny the Holy Spirit, but on Judgment Day God will show the truth of every heart. Stephen was saying everyone who could hear this defense of the gospel and did not embrace it was really resisting the Holy Spirit.

We too, each individual, must decide to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior as the Holy Spirit and Scripture confirm the validity of the gospel message.



Who:  
Stephen

When:  
31 A.D.

Where:  
Jerusalem

What:  
Trial

Why:  
Accused of  
blasphemy of  
the Law and the  
Temple

How:  
Stephen had to  
defend himself  
before the  
Council.

