

Acts 6 shape and keywords

Now during those days, when **the disciples were multiplying**, the Greek speakers complained against the Hebrew speakers because their widows kept being neglected in the daily **ministry**.

And **the twelve** called together the fullness of the disciples and said, "It is not pleasing that we should neglect the word of God in order **to minister** at tables.

Therefore, brothers, **select from among yourselves seven men** who are witnessed for, full of **the Spirit and of wisdom**, whom we may appoint to this task,

while we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the **ministry** of the word."

What they said pleased the whole community, and **they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.**

They had these men stand before **the apostles**, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God continued to grow; the number of **the disciples multiplied greatly** in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests listened to the faith.

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not resist **the wisdom and the Spirit** with which he spoke.

Then they secretly bribed some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the Sanhedrin. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the Sanhedrin looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.