"Realities Nothing Can Change"
Acts 7:54-8:3
Sept. 6, 2026

I. What is the Message of Acts 7:54-8-3?

A. The faithfulness and courage of Stephen are worth of our admiration.

B. But the main message, once again in Acts, centers on Christ.

II. Main Message: Three Things the Enemies of Christ Can Never Change

A. Christ's Position

1. Jesus is already the exalted Son of Man at the Father's right hand. (Dan. 7:13-14)

2. The martyrdom of Stephen, or anything today, could never change that.

B. Christ's Loving Care for His People

1. Jesus *stood up* to vindicate his servant, Stephen.

2. Jesus heard the prayers of Stephen and received his spirit.

3. Jesus speaks for us today. He also hears our prayers and will lovingly shepherd our souls to His presence at our death.

C. Christ's Intent to Spread His Kingdom

1. A zealous participant in the death of Stephen would become the greatest Christian evangelist: Saul soon-to-be Paul.

2. Christ took one of His enemies and made him his loyal and fruitful servant.

3. He also made him an example of His mercy (1 Tim. 1:15-16).

4. Jesus does the same in the world and for us today.