

One of the greatest tragic moments of Earthen History!

Acts 7: 51-Ch. 8: 1-4

What was Stephen offering the Leaders of Israel that they rejected?

Understanding – the ability to understand... Mercy – The ability to be forgiven of their terrible mistake as well as all the other issues of their sin debt.

I. Time of Utopia

Eden/Paradise

What was life like before the fall?

1. No rebellion
2. No knowledge of Evil
3. No money to become the root of so many problems
4. No lust/covetousness
5. No stealing
6. No lying
7. No guilt
8. No anger, wrath or malice, no filthy communication out of one's mouth
9. No fear
10. No uncertainty
11. No incompleteness
12. No death
13. No loneliness
14. No disease

Paradise/Clear Conscience/Complete/Self-Worth/Love Pure/No Offense/No Self

Rev. 21: 1-8

Verse 11 – Outside are **dogs** – animals of filth (self-preservation)/ Sorcerers – Drugs of Delusions (earthly substitute for a relationship with God) – **Whoremongers** – sexual distortions (a substitute for true worship)/ **murderers** – angrily playing God by taking other's life/ **Idolaters** – focused on creation as God/ Whosoever loveth and maketh a lie (Satan's Distortion of Truth)

II. Time of Tragedy

- Rejection of God's Love
- Rejection of God's Lordship

Which led to:

1. Knowledge of Evil/ Experience of Evil
2. Guilt
3. Shame
4. Fear
5. Nakedness
6. Anger, Wrath, Malice, Blasphemy, filthy Communications --Col. 3: 8
7. Death
8. Enmity between man and woman
9. Multiplied sorrow
10. Hard Labor
11. Uncertainty
12. Separation
13. Disease
14. Offense
15. Poor self-worth/self esteem

16. Confusion

17. Darkness

III. Time of Transition

- Age of Conscience
- Age of Law
- Age of Love

Acts 7: 51 - Ch. 8: 1-4

Which leads to:

1. Second start – Born Again
2. Mercy
3. Grace
4. Forgiveness
5. Gift of Holy Spirit
6. Confidence in Eternity
7. Peace
8. Sin debt paid
9. Saved
10. Redemption (paid out of bondage)
11. Remission (sent sin back where it came from)
12. Restitution (as if never sinned)
13. Favor with God