

INTRODUCTION:

STEPHEN, ONE OF THE FIRST DEACONS,
THE FIRST CHRISTIAN MARTYR

MANY TIMES CHARACTER CAN BE READ IN THE FACE.

I. A RADIATION OF INNER CONFIDENCE

1. OF SALVATION; HE WAS A BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN

Luke 7:50 - "thy faith hath saved thee; Go in peace"

2. OF CONSCIENCE; HE WAS OF GOOD REPUTATION —

NOTHING TO HURT HIS CONSCIENCE

The wicked flee when no man pursueth. Prov. 28:1

Jno. 8:9 - convicted by their own conscience

3. OF SPIRITUAL POWER

A. FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

B. FULL OF FAITH, V.5 - faith coming by hearing... by Word

C. FULL OF GRACE AND POWER, V.8

grow in grace - II Peter 3:18

grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably. Heb. 12:28

II. RESPLENDENCE OF OUTWARD COURAGE

1. THE WISDOM OF HIS PREACHING THE TRUTH

the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God.

2. THE COURAGE WITH WHICH HE ACCUSED THE GUILTY

Josh. 1:7 - Be strong and very courageous

Acts 4:31 - filled with H.S. + spoke word of God
with boldness.

III. A REFLECTION OF FUTURE GLORY

1. HE HAD THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRIST —

THE SPIRIT OF FORGIVENESS, 7:60

2. THE SUFFERINGS OF THIS PRESENT TIME ARE NOT WORTHY TO BE
COMPARED WITH THE GLORY WHICH SHALL BE REVEALED IN US.

II Cor. 3:18 - "beholdings... the glory of ~~God~~ the Lord,
we are changed..."