

The Stoning of a God

Acts 14

¹At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke so effectively that a great number of Jews and Gentiles believed.

²But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.

³So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to do miraculous signs and wonders.

Acts 14:1-3 ^{NIV}

*⁴The people of the city were divided;
some sided with the Jews, others with the apostles.
⁵There was a plot afoot among the Gentiles and Jews,
together with their leaders, to mistreat them and stone
them. ⁶But they found out about it and fled to the
Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe and to the
surrounding country, ⁷where they continued
to preach the good news.*

Acts 14:4-7 ^{NIV}

*⁸In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet,
who was lame from birth and had never walked.
⁹He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked
directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed
¹⁰and called out, "Stand up on your feet!"*

*At that, the man jumped up
and began to walk.*

Acts 14:8-10 ^{NIV}

*¹¹When the crowd saw what Paul had done,
they shouted in the Lycaonian language,
"The gods have come down to us in human form!"
¹²Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes
because he was the chief speaker. ¹³The priest of Zeus,
whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls
and wreaths to the city gates because he
and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.*

Acts 14:11-13 ^{NIV}

*¹⁴But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this,
they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd,
shouting: ¹⁵"Men, why are you doing this?*

*We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you
good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things
to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea
and everything in them.*

Acts 14:14, 15 ^{NIV}

¹⁶In the past, he let all nations go their own way.

¹⁷Yet he has not left himself without testimony:

He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." ¹⁸Even with these

words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

Acts 14:16-18 ^{NIV}

What Does It Feel Like to Live Like a God?

❖ *Gods Seem to Have all the _____*

❖ *Gods Seem to Do Lots of _____ Things*

What Does It Feel Like to _____ for _____?

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____ _____*

What Does It Feel Like to Live Like a God?

❖ *Gods Seem to Have all the **Answers***

❖ *Gods Seem to Do Lots of _____ Things*

What Does It Feel Like to _____ for _____?

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____ _____*

*²¹Then Peter came to him and asked,
“Lord, how often should I forgive someone
who sins against me? Seven times?”*

*²²“No, not seven times,” Jesus replied,
“but seventy times seven!”*

Matthew 18:21, 22 ^{NLT}

²³“Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him.

²⁴In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. ²⁵He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

Matthew 18:23-25 ^{NLT}

*26 “But the man fell down before his master and begged him,
‘Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.’*

*27 Then his master was filled with pity for him,
and he released him and forgave his debt.*

*28 “But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow
servant who owed him a few thousand dollars.
He grabbed him by the throat and demanded
instant payment.*

Matthew 18:26-28 ^{NLT}

²⁹“His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it,’ he pleaded. ³⁰But his creditor wouldn’t wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full. ³¹“When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened.

Matthew 18:29-31 ^{NLT}

*³²Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said,
‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt
because you pleaded with me. ³³Shouldn’t you have mercy
on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’
³⁴Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured
until he had paid his entire debt. ³⁵“That’s what my heavenly
Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive
your brothers and sisters from your heart.”*

Matthew 18:32-35 ^{NLT}

What Does It Feel Like to Live Like a God?

❖ *Gods Seem to Have all the Answers*

❖ *Gods Seem to Do Lots of Impressive Things*

What Does It Feel Like to _____ for _____?

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____ _____*

21 “Not everyone who calls out to me, ‘Lord! Lord!’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter.

22 On judgment day many will say to me, ‘Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.’

23 But I will reply, ‘I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God’s laws.’

Matthew 7:21-23 ^{NLT}

*¹³“You can enter God’s Kingdom
only through the narrow gate.*

*The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide
for the many who choose that way. ¹⁴But the gateway
to life is very narrow and the road is difficult,
and only a few ever find it.*

Matthew 7:13, 14 ^{NLT}

¹⁵“Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves. ¹⁶You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree can’t produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can’t produce good fruit. ¹⁹So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.

Matthew 7:15-20 ^{NLT}

What Does It Feel Like to Live Like a God?

❖ *Gods Seem to Have all the Answers*

❖ *Gods Seem to Do Lots of Impressive Things*

What Does It Feel Like to Die for God?

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____ _____*

19Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead.

20But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe. 21They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples.

Acts 14:19-21a^{NIV}

What Does It Feel Like to Live Like a God?

❖ *Gods Seem to Have all the Answers*

❖ *Gods Seem to Do Lots of Impressive Things*

What Does It Feel Like to Die for God?

❖ *Stone of Unforgiveness*

❖ *Stone of _____*

❖ *Stone of _____ _____*

*²⁶And “don’t sin by letting anger control you.”
Don’t let the sun go down while you are still angry,
²⁷for anger gives a foothold to the devil.*

*³⁰And do not bring sorrow to God’s Holy Spirit
by the way you live.*

*Remember, he has identified you as his own,
guaranteeing that you will be saved
on the day of redemption.*

Ephesians 4:26, 27, 30^{NLT}

*³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words,
and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior.*

*³²Instead, be kind to each other,
tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
just as God through Christ has forgiven you.*

Ephesians 4:31, 32 ^{NLT}

What Does It Feel Like to Live Like a God?

❖ *Gods Seem to Have all the Answers*

❖ *Gods Seem to Do Lots of Impressive Things*

What Does It Feel Like to Die for God?

❖ *Stone of Unforgiveness*

❖ *Stone of Disbelief*

❖ *Stone of _____*

27But Jesus spoke to them at once. “Don’t be afraid,” he said. “Take courage. I am here!” 28Then Peter called to him, “Lord, if it’s really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water.” 29“Yes, come,” Jesus said.

So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. 30But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink.

“Save me, Lord!” he shouted. 31Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. “You have so little faith,” Jesus said.

“Why did you doubt me?”

Matthew 14:27-31 ^{NLT}

What Does It Feel Like to Live Like a God?

- ❖ *Gods Seem to Have all the Answers*
- ❖ *Gods Seem to Do Lots of Impressive Things*

What Does It Feel Like to Die for God?

- ❖ *Stone of Unforgiveness*
- ❖ *Stone of Disbelief*
- ❖ *Stone of Past Failures*

⁹ Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰ nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 ^{NIV}