

Book of Acts

Acts 6 - Every Face Tells a Story

Acts 6:8-15

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Acts 6:8-10 (NKJV)

⁸ And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen. ¹⁰ And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.

Luke 21:15 (KJV)

¹⁵ For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

Acts 6: 11-14 (NKJV)

¹¹ Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹² And they stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes; and they came upon him, seized him, and brought him to the council. ¹³ They also set up false witnesses who said, "This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place and the law; ¹⁴ for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses delivered to us."

Matthew 26:59 (KJV)

⁵⁹ Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death;

Acts 6:15 (TLB)

¹⁵ At this point everyone in the Council chamber saw Stephen's face become as radiant as an angel's!

Top three reasons executives preferred face-to-face meetings:

1. To build stronger, more meaningful business relationships (85%);
2. Allows them to read body language and facial expressions (77%);
3. To have greater social interaction (75%).

--Steve Manicor, "The Value of face-to-face meetings, bigIDEASblog, January 19, 2010, <http://blog.omnipress.com>.

"The face of the young is a prophecy the face of the old is a history."

- Rev. Elwin Lincoln House, D.D.

Proverbs 15:13 (NKJV)

¹³ *A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.*

“The character of a man is seen in the countenance of his wife.”

–Dr. Ed Cole

The Lord Jesus was Transfigured

Matthew 17:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ *Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; ² and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.*

Moses was Transfigured

Exodus 34:29 (NLT)

²⁹ *When Moses came down Mount Sinai carrying the two stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant, he wasn't aware that his face had become radiant because he had spoken to the LORD.*

A face to face meeting with God on a consistent basis should be the norm for New Testament Christians.

God's presences will not only affect the way you feel and act but how you look.

I Can Be Transfigured

1. God's Presences must be Pursued

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

God's presences pursued by us means God's glory is renewed in us.

2. God's Presences must be Prioritized

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

³³ *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

When God's presence is prioritized we won't compromise.

3. God's Presences must be Practiced

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ *pray continually;*

When God's presence is practiced others may attack us.