

**Readings for the week of May 7, 2023**

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Through these readings, we get a glimpse into the character of the Holy Trinity; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit...Three in One.

Stephen was stoned to death, but he was not put to shame. In Acts 7:56, we read about Stephen's last words, before he died, "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" He remained faithful to God until the end, and as he experienced physical death, his spirit remained alive. He was going Home.

Stephen was able to endure being stoned, because he was "full of the Spirit." You may not be martyred for your faith like Stephen was. But, God has a plan for your life, and with the Holy Spirit's help, you will accomplish it.

God's love is everlasting and unconditional. Stephen was no longer physically alive, but he is eternally alive with God the Father, and God the Son (Jesus).

Through God the Son, (Jesus') death and resurrection, He made it possible for us to be reconciled with God, the Father. Therefore, John 14:6 tells us that Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

God's Word tells us in Acts 14:12, "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father."

That Scripture is fulfilled through of God the Holy Spirit at work in our lives. The song, "There is a Redeemer," by Melody Green, speaks of the Holy Trinity in these words,

Thank you oh my Father  
For giving us Your Son  
And leaving Your Spirit  
'Til the work on earth is done