

Acts of the Apostles: RSVP Regrets Only

August 29th, 2010

God is inviting you to EXPERIENCE...

...a JOURNEY of faith (Abraham)

Acts 7:1-4 Then the high priest asked Stephen, "Are these accusations true?" ² This was Stephen's reply: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me. Our glorious God appeared to our ancestor Abraham in Mesopotamia before he settled in Haran. ³ God told him, 'Leave your native land and your relatives, and come into the land that I will show you.' ⁴ So Abraham left the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran until his father died. Then God brought him here to the land where you now live.

1 John 2:3-6 We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. ⁴The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did. (NIV)

...the FAITHFULNESS of God (Joseph)

Acts 7:9-10 "These patriarchs were jealous of their brother Joseph, and they sold him to be a slave in Egypt. But God was with him ¹⁰ and rescued him from all his troubles. And God gave him favor before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. God also gave Joseph unusual wisdom, so that Pharaoh appointed him governor over all of Egypt and put him in charge of the palace.

Isaiah 43:1-3 "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. ³ For I am the LORD, your God, (NIV)

...to DEPEND on His understanding (Moses)

Acts 7:22-29, 35, 40-42 Moses was taught all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was powerful in both speech and action. ²³ "One day when Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his relatives, the people of Israel. ²⁴ He saw an Egyptian mistreating an Israelite. So Moses came to the man's defense and avenged him, killing the Egyptian. ²⁵ Moses assumed his fellow Israelites would realize that God had sent him to rescue them, but they didn't. ²⁶ "The next day he visited them again and saw two men of Israel fighting. He tried to be a peacemaker. 'Men,' he said, 'you are brothers. Why are you fighting each other?' ²⁷ "But the man in the wrong pushed Moses aside. 'Who made you a ruler and judge over us?' he asked. ²⁸ 'Are you going to kill me as you killed that Egyptian yesterday?' ²⁹ When Moses heard that, he fled the country and lived as a foreigner in the land of Midian. ...³⁵ "So God sent back the same man his people had previously rejected ... "But our ancestors refused to listen to Moses. They rejected him and wanted to return to Egypt. ⁴⁰ They told Aaron, 'Make us some gods who can lead us, for we don't know what has become of this Moses, who brought us out of Egypt.' ⁴¹ So they made an idol shaped like a calf, and they sacrificed to it and celebrated over this thing they had made. ⁴² Then God turned away from them and abandoned them to serve the stars of heaven as their gods!

...the DESIRES of your heart (David)

Acts 7:46-47 "David found favor with God and asked for the privilege of building a permanent Temple for the God of Jacob."⁴⁷ But it was Solomon who actually built it.

...TRUE Worship (Stephen)

Acts 7:51 "You stubborn people! You are heathen at heart and deaf to the truth. Must you forever resist the Holy Spirit? That's what your ancestors did, and so do you!

An INVITATION just for you!

Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."