



FEBRUARY, 2024

Acts 5: Commissioned - His Heart, Hands, Humility, and Honor

Introductory Statement: We continue our study of the Actions of the Holy Spirit in and through the lives of the Apostles, as directed by Jesus, the Christ. Before His ascension, Jesus left instructions for His followers to wait until the promised advocate arrived to empower them, so that they could effectively fulfill His commission for them. In this chapter, we further experience Luke's witness concerning the evidence of the Holy Spirit's empowerment, in testimony to the Lordship of Jesus, the Christ.

Summary Points:

- Who authored the book of Acts of the Apostles?
- What did Ananias and Sapphira do wrong?
- Why were the signs and miracles performed at the hands of the Apostles?
- Why were the High priest and Sadducees angry with the Apostles?
- How could these followers rejoice after being humiliated and punished?

Objectives: As a result of our time of study today each Believer in JESUS will better grasp the intention of this scripture passage and understand ways to personally apply these truths in daily living.

THE WARM-UP

- **Jesus foretold the disciples' present experiences.**
 - You will be hated because of your association with me.
John 15:18-25 (AMP)
 - You will be made outcasts, even to the point of death.
John 16:1-4 (AMP)
 - Others will tell lies about and persecute you, but Rejoice because of your associations with me and those who came before you.
Matthew 5:11 (AMP)

- **With the empowerment and direction of the Holy Spirit, the Apostles are boldly moving forward in their testimonies of Jesus**
 - The Kingdom of God is being extended.
 - They are preaching and teaching publicly.
 - Miraculous healings are occurring.
 - The poor and widows are being cared for.

THE WORKOUT

- **The Ministry of the Holy Spirit through the Apostles is being generously funded by those in the community of faith who have hearts to serve. The community takes notice of those who were giving in support of those in need.**
 - Acts 4:32-36 (AMP).
 - Ananias and Sapphira decide to participate by selling a piece of their property.
 - Acts 5:1-11 (AMP).
 - The couple's Heart Posture was improperly motivated

- As with Judas, the Accuser found an opening in their hearts to accomplish his agenda.
John 13:21- 27(AMP)
- Was it a desire to be seen and approved publicly?
Matthew 6:1-4 (AMP)
- Was it a vow which they decided was too expensive to keep (after receiving the proceeds from the sale)?
Deuteronomy 23:21 (AMP)
- Were they excited about being involved in the good activity more than being in relationship with God?
Acts 5:4 (AMP)
- The immediate death was the result of an immediate transgression against the Holy Spirit. There are other immediate physical deaths in the scriptures. Do you see any parallels?
 - Dathan, Abiram, and Nemuel died after rebelling against God
Numbers 26:9-11(AMP)
 - Uzza died for touching the ark of covenant.
1 Chronicles 13:9-11 (AMP)
- Is God, who is rich in mercy, required to always show mercy and grace to everyone?
 - God is sovereign. He answers to no one.
Romans 9:14-16 (AMP)
 - It is not God's will that anyone would perish
2 Peter 3:9 (AMP)
- **The Ministry of the Holy Spirit is through the Hands of the Apostles to demonstrate His Kingdom and compel others to come to true life in Jesus.**
Acts 5:12-16 (AMP)

- The non-believers didn't want to be publicly identified with the Believers, but they held them in high regard.
- The more they heard and saw, the more they received the message and gave their lives to Jesus.
- The signs (information and/or direction) and miracles (supernatural, instantaneous occurrence) were performed by the Holy Spirit to point the way to Jesus and His Kingdom.
- **The Hands of Miracles suffered at the Hands of those opposed to God (in the name of God). These were the same ones who crucified Jesus.**
Acts 5:17-32 (AMP)

THE COOL DOWN

- Their lives are spared to continuously make disciples
 - Gamaliel provides the council great wisdom to spare the lives of the Apostles. “If this is of God, you can’t fight against Him...”
 - Those persecuted considered it an honor to suffer for the name of Christ, even in the face of mounting adversity.
Acts 5:41-42 (AMP)

- Has your heart been transformed and postured to serve Him completely, even in the face of adversity?

- Have you surrendered you life so that you can be His Hands extended, through which the Holy Spirit can work miracles, signs, and wonders toward others knowing Jesus?

- Are you willing to suffer for the cause of knowing Jesus?
 - The Bible says that if we suffer with Him, we shall reign with Him.

- Are you ready to anchor your soul in Jesus?