

<sup>1</sup> But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession.

E.S.V. – N.A.S.V. & N.I.V. = “piece of property” Also **note verse 3** “... the price of the land ...”

<sup>2</sup> And he kept back *part* of the proceeds, his wife also being aware *of it*, and brought a certain part and laid *it* at the apostles' feet.

<sup>3</sup> But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself?"

**1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 5:8-9, 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 7:5, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 2:11, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 11:3 & 1<sup>st</sup> Tim. 6:10**

<sup>4</sup> While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

Vs. 3 = "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to **lie to the Holy Spirit** ..."

Vs. 4 = "... You have not **lied to men but to God**"

<sup>5</sup> Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things.

<sup>6</sup> And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried *him* out, and buried *him*.

<sup>7</sup> Now it was about three hours later when **his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.**

<sup>8</sup> And Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?" She said, "Yes, for so much."

<sup>9</sup> Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband *are* at the door, and they will carry you out."

<sup>10</sup> Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying *her* out, buried *her* by her husband.

<sup>11</sup> So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.

<sup>12</sup> And **through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people.** And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch.

**Acts 2:43 (NKJV)** Then fear came upon every soul, and many **wonders and signs were done through the apostles.**

<sup>13</sup> Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.

<sup>14</sup> And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,

See Acts 2:47 and Acts 4:4

<sup>15</sup> so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.

<sup>16</sup> Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

<sup>17</sup> Then the high priest rose up, and all those who *were* with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation,

<sup>18</sup> and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison.

<sup>19</sup> But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said,

Angel activity in Acts

At ascension of Jesus (**Acts 1:10**) Apostles released from prison by an angel (**Acts 5:19**) angel instructs travel of Philip (**Acts 8:26**) angel speaks to (**Acts 10:3/Acts 11:13**) angel release Peter from jail (**Acts 12:7-11**) angel involved in the death of Herod (**Acts 12:23**) angel speaks to Paul on a ship (**Acts 27:22-24**)

<sup>20</sup> "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life."

<sup>21</sup> And when they heard *that*, they entered the temple early in the morning and taught. But the high priest and those with him came and called the council together, with all the elders of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

<sup>22</sup> But when the officers came and did not find them in the prison, they returned and reported,

<sup>23</sup> saying, "Indeed we found the prison shut securely, and the guards standing outside before the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside!"

<sup>24</sup> Now when the high priest, the captain of the temple, and the chief priests heard these things, they wondered what the outcome would be.

**Acts 5:24 (ESV)** Now when the **captain of the temple** and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to.

**Acts 5:24 (NASB)** Now when the **captain of the temple guard** and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them as to what would come of this.

**Acts 5:24 (NIV)** On hearing this report, the **captain of the temple guard** and the chief priests were puzzled, wondering what would come of this.

officials in charge of the Temple ([Luke 22:4](#), [52](#); [Acts 4:1](#); [Acts 5:24](#), [26](#)). The captain of the Temple had the superintendence of the Levites and priests who were on guard in and around the Temple, and under him were *stratēgoi*, who were also captains of the Temple police, although they took their instruction from him as their head. He was not only a priest, but second in dignity only to the high priest himself; **The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia**.

<sup>25</sup> So one came and told them, saying, "Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!"

<sup>26</sup> Then the captain went with the officers and brought them without violence, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned.

<sup>27</sup> And when they had brought them, they set *them* before the council. And the high priest asked them,

<sup>28</sup> saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!"

**REMEMBER ---- Matthew 27:25 (NKJV)** And all the people answered and said, "*His blood be on us and on our children.*"

<sup>29</sup> But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men."

**Galatians 1:10 (NKJV)** *For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.*

<sup>30</sup> The **God of our fathers raised up Jesus** whom you murdered by hanging on a tree.

Tree --- "wood, a piece of wood, anything made of wood" (see STAFF, STOCKS), is used, with the rendering "tree," (b) of "the cross," the tree being the stauros, the upright pale or stake to which Romans nailed those who were thus to be executed, Acts 5:30; 10:39; 13:29; Gal. 3:13; 1 Pet. 2:24;  
**Vine's Expository dictionary**

Tree --- **1.** "wood": universally, [1 Corinthians 3:12](#); ξυλον θεινον, [Revelation 18:12](#); "that which is made of wood," as a beam from which anyone is suspended, "a gibbet, a cross" (A.V. "tree," which see in B. D. American edition), [Acts 5:30](#); [10:39](#); [13:29](#); [Galatians 3:13](#); [1 Peter 2:24](#)  
**Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament**

**Him God has exalted to His right hand** to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

**Acts 4:10 (NKJV)** *let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.*

**Acts 3:14-15 (NKJV)** <sup>14</sup> *But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,* <sup>15</sup> *and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.*

**Acts 2:23-24 (NKJV)** <sup>23</sup> *Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;* <sup>24</sup> *whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.*

<sup>32</sup> And we are His witnesses to these things, and *so* also *is* the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

See: **Galatians 3:2, Romans 10:17, Jn. 14:26, John 15:26, John 16:7-13, Ephesians 6:17, 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:16-17, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 5:16 & Galatians 5:22-25**

<sup>33</sup> When they heard *this*, they were furious and plotted to kill them.

<sup>34</sup> Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while.

**Gamaliel** Highly regarded Pharisee who was a member of the Sanhedrin ([Acts 5:34](#)). He squelched a plan by the Sanhedrin to kill the apostles by reminding the members that interference with what the apostles were doing might prove to be opposition to God. If the work of the apostles were a purely human work, Gamaliel said, it would come to nothing anyway. According to [Acts 22:3](#), this Gamaliel had been Paul's teacher. **Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary**

<sup>35</sup> And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men.

<sup>36</sup> For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing.

<sup>37</sup> After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed.

<sup>38</sup> And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing;

<sup>39</sup> but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it--lest you even be found to fight against God."

<sup>40</sup> And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten *them*, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

<sup>41</sup> So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.

<sup>42</sup> And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus *as* the Christ.

### **Questions Acts 5**

1. Explain what happened to Ananias and Sapphira.

a. What type reaction did this create?

2. What do we learn about Satan from the additional passages that are mentioned following verse 3?
  
3. List 3 scriptures in Acts chapters 2-5 that shows the growth of the church.
  
4. Who was put into prison? Why?
  
5. Give a minimum of 4 examples of Angel activity in the book of Acts.
  
6. Which verse states, *"We ought to obey God rather than men."*?
  - a. What can we learn from this?
  
7. Through which source does the Holy Spirit work in those who serve Christ?
  
8. What advice does Gamaliel give to the council and how do they respond?
  
9. Describe the reaction and action of the Apostles after they were released from the council.
  
10. What will you commit to memory from Acts chapter 5?

