

# Acts 1:8

# Acts 2:38-39

## Acts 3:19

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord...”

## Acts 4:12

“Nor is there salvation in any other,  
for there is no other name under  
heaven given among men by which  
we must be saved”

## Acts 5:29

“Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, ‘We ought to obey God rather than men.’”

# Acts 5 Outline

- \* Vs. 1-11
  - \* Ananias & Sapphira
- \* Vs. 12-16
  - \* Miracles, wonders, signs
- \* Vs. 17-42
  - \* Second arrest of the apostles

# Ananias & Sapphira

- \* Contrast:
  - \* Joses (Barnabas) – 4:36-37
  - \* Ananias & Sapphira
- \* Sin was not:
  - \* They gave only part of the price
- \* Not obligated to sell – verse 4
- \* Not obligated to give the full price – verse 4
- \* Free-will offering
  - \* 2 Cor 9:7

# Lying to God

- \* Gave part of price but pretended to give all the price
- \* Motive?
  - \* Sought praise of men?
- \* Lied to
  - \* Holy Spirit – verse 3
  - \* God – verse 4
  - \* The Spirit of God – verse 9
- \* Holy Spirit is God, Deity
- \* God knows the heart
  - \* Not just what we do, but why we do it



# Acts 5: Principles – Giving into Common Fund of the Church

- \* Free-will
  - \* Not required sell; not required to give all
  - \* Not a forced commune
  - \* Give bountifully and cheerfully: 2 Cor 9:6-7
- \* Distinction of individual funds (own) and church funds (common)
  - \* 1 Tim 5:16
- \* Church funds no longer under individual control and decision as to how to use the money
  - \* Under apostolic control
  - \* Read NT to see apostolic teaching regarding the purpose and use of \$ laid at the apostles' feet
  - \* Neither you nor I have the right (authority), apart from apostolic authority, to decide how to use the church's funds

# Acts 5: First Example of Discipline in the Church

- \* No doubt about God's will
- \* Not doubt about God's omniscience
  - \* Acts 15:8
- \* No doubt about apostles' authority
  - \* Above deceit
  - \* Their message confirmed
- \* Brought fear on others

# Two Possible Paths

- \* No discipline
  - \* Growth of sin & its influence – 1 Cor 5:6
  - \* Against the will of God
- \* Discipline
  - \* Soul may be saved – 1 Cor 5:5
  - \* Purity of the body of Christ – 1 Cor 5:7
  - \* Others may fear – Acts 5:11; 1 Tim 5:20
- \* What will the faithful do?
  - \* Gal 6:1-2; Jas 5:19-20; 1 Cor 5:4-5

# Acts 5:1-11

- \* Cannot hide from God
- \* God did not overlook sin in the church
- \* Discipline results in fear in others who witness it
- \* Apostles' ministry confirmed
- \* “Once saved, always saved” refuted
- \* Individual funds distinct from church funds

# The state of the church

- \* Many signs & wonders through the hands of the apostles
  - \* “and they were all healed” – 5:16
- \* Apostles’ unity – “with one accord”
- \* “The people” esteemed them highly
- \* Believers increasingly added to the Lord – verse 14
  - \* Acts 2:41 – added to them
  - \* Acts 2:47 – added to the church
  - \* Synecdoche – part put for the whole or vice versa
    - \* Consider Acts 18:8 & I Cor1:14

# Causes and Effects

- \* Peter & John had been commanded to quit preaching about Jesus – 4:17-22
- \* They had replied that they must continue to preach – 4:23-31
- \* They had prayed for
  - \* boldness to continue preaching
  - \* God to continue working signs through the name of Jesus
- \* They continued preaching – 5:12-16
- \* The preaching had its intended result – 5:14
- \* Another possibility: STOP PREACHING JESUS. **What would be the effect of that?**

# Fighting Against God

- \* The rulers' order defied by the apostles
- \* The rulers' jealousy
- \* Imprison the messengers
- \* Sadducees
  - \* No resurrection
  - \* No angels
  - \* Acts 23:8

# “all the words of this life”

## Acts 5:20

- \* Jesus has the words of life – Jn 6:63, 68
- \* Jesus the way, the truth, and the life – Jn 14:6
- \* Spiritual life – not a carnal, worldly message
  - \* Eternal life
- \* Keep preaching this even while being opposed
- \* Did the apostles follow the angel’s command?
  - \* Acts 5:21 “...and when they heard that, they entered the temple early in the morning and taught.”
  - \* Courage & Zeal



# What does the devil want?

- \* Stop preaching
- \* Stop teaching
- \* Stop speaking in the name of Jesus
- \* Stop encouraging
- \* Stop warning
- \* Stop correcting

**In other words, be silent!**

# No typical jail break

- \* Doors shut securely
- \* Guards standing outside the door
- \* Prisoners gone
  
- \* But does yet another miracle soften the hearts of the rulers?
  - \* No
  - \* Why not?
    - \* In chapter 4, they were dishonest with the truth

# “We must obey God rather than men”

- \* Still true today
- \* The command obeyed?
  - \* Mt 28:18-20
  - \* Mk 16:15-16
  - \* Acts 1:8
- \* Is the principle relevant today?
  - \* Consider laws in California
  - \* Consider laws in Canada
  - \* Consider laws in Idaho, in Latah County, in Moscow

# Objection!

- \* “The God of our fathers raised up Jesus”
- \* “You murdered”
- \* “Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins”
- \* They would object to every thing Peter and the other apostles said!

# The Holy Spirit – A Witness

- \* The message He gave the apostles
- \* The confirmation by miracles
- \* Prophecy of Scripture