

Series "The Acts Of God"
"Truth or Consequences"
Acts 4:32-5:11
Study-10

The Truth – Acts 4:32-37

The Consequences – Acts 5:1-11

Num. 32:23

1 Peter 4:17

1. Verses 32-37 – The Truth

2. Verses 1-11 – The Consequences:

1. Verses 32-37 – The Truth:

Acts 4:32

Acts 4:31

The Holy Spirit's Effect Upon the Church: (3 Observations)

1. Verse 32 – The Spirit's Effect; They Were Unified: "the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul";

"heart" – "oneness in truth, reality in their bonds with each other"

"and soul" – "they were thinking along the same lines; they had the same theology"

2. Verse 32 – The Spirit's Effect; They Shared Everything They Had: "and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them."

1. Communism is by Force: This was voluntary.
2. Communism is Materialistic: This had a spiritual purpose.
3. Communism is Socialistic: Based on a person's merits and needs.

3. Verse 33 – The Spirit's Effect; A Powerful Witness: Acts 4:33

Acts 4:29

Verses 34-35 – Results of Their Sharing:

2 Corinthians 8-9

Acts 4:36

Barnabas – was an Apostle Acts 14:14; His name is mentioned 25X in Acts and 5X in the Epistles.

“which translated means, Son of Encouragement”; “son of comfort”

Acts 4:37

2. Verses 1-11 – The Consequences:

Acts 5:1

Ananias – Means “God is gracious,”

Sapphira – Her name means “Beautiful.”

Ananias and Sapphira were probably Christians: The fact that they were able to lie to the Spirit (Acts 5:3) and tempt (Test) the Spirit (Acts 5:9) would indicate that they had the Spirit of God living within.

Acts 5:2

Hypocrisy, which simply means “wearing a mask, playing the actor.” Hypocrisy is deliberate deception, trying to make people think we are more spiritual than we really are.

The Sin was Birthed Out of Envy:

The Sin was Motivated by Pride: Want to be seen by man!

“with his wife's full knowledge”, Eph 5:21-24

Matt. 6:1-4, 19-34

Acts 5:3

The Role of Satan (Spiritual Warfare): “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart”

Satan –

James 4:7

Satan’s tactic is to appear as a “devouring lion” 1 Peter 5:8

Satan's tactic is to appear as a "deceiving serpent" or an "angel of light" 2 Cor. 11:3, 13-14

Satan is both a murderer and a liar; John 8:44 and the church must be prepared for both attacks.

Paul's Warning to the Ephesians' Elders: Acts 20:28-31

Sin Is Always Against God: "lie to the Holy Spirit",

Acts 5:4

The Rights of Ownership: Ex 20:15 "Shall not steal"

Acts 5:5

OT God Took Some Lives In Judgment During Crucial Times:

1. Nadab and Abihu, for trying to present "false fire" to the Lord Lev. 10
2. Achan and his family, for disobeying orders after Israel had entered the Promised Land Josh. 7
3. Uzzah was struck dead for touching the Ark – 2 Sam 6

1 Cor. 10:11-12.

1 John 5:16

Acts 5:6-8

Acts 5:9 "deliberately disobeying God and seeing how far they could go with God"

Acts 5:10

1 Cor. 11:30

NLT Heb.10:30-31

The Outcome: Acts 5:11

1. The purity of the church was preserved.
2. There was wholesome and godly fear permeating the church.
3. There was holy reverence on all who heard these things.

Application:

1. The early Church placed their faith in the person of Christ – rather than the institution of the Church.
2. The Gravity of sin: Ananias and Sapphira’s sin was not in robbing God of money but in lying to Him and robbing Him of glory.
3. We need to examine our own lives to see if our Profession is backed up by our Practice.

Do we really mean everything we pray about in public?

Do we sing the worship and praise songs sincerely or routinely?

Matt. 15:8

4. If God killed “religious deceivers” today, how many church members would be left?