

Acts 5

Questions

1. What was the sin of Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-4)?
2. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira and what was the reaction of the people who heard about it (5:5-11)?
3. How did Luke describe the growth of the church and the miraculous work of the apostles (5:12-16)?
4. How did the Jewish authorities feel about the apostles and what did they do to them (5:17-18)?
5. Where did the apostles go after they were released from prison and what did they do there (5:19-25)?
6. What defense did Peter and the apostles give for their actions in the temple (5:26-32)?
7. What two men did Gamaliel refer to in his speech (5:33-37)?
8. What advice did Gamaliel offer the Jewish council that kept them from killing the apostles (5:38-39)?
9. What did the council do to the apostles (5:40)?

10. How did the apostles leave the council and what did they do (5:41-42)?

Digging Deeper

1. Where was Solomon's porch located (5:5)?

2. Who were the Sadducees (5:17; see 4:1)?

3. What was "the council" (5:21, 27, 34, 41)?

4. Who are the "witnesses" of 5:32?

5. Where else in the NT is Gamaliel mentioned (5:34)?

6. What is "the Name" (5:41)?

Applications for Today

1. Satan tries to destroy the church with outward persecution (Acts 4) and inward corruption (Acts 5:3; Eph. 4:27; Jas. 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8).

2. Satan wants to fill your heart with evil, don't let him (5:3; Jn. 13:2; Eph. 4:27).

3. Lying is a sin and hypocrisy in the church will be punished (5:3; Mt. 24:51; Rev. 21:8).

4. The Holy Spirit is a divine person of the Godhead, not a thing (5:3-4, 9; Eph. 5:30).

5. Removing unrepentant sinners from the local church and keeping it spiritually pure is important for the health and growth of the Lord's church (5:1-11; Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; 2 Thess. 3:6-15).

6. God's punishment should bring fear upon everyone (5:5, 11; 1 Tim. 5:19-20).

7. Not all unity is good unity (5:9; 1 Tim. 5:22).
8. The Lord's church needs to be unified and growing (5:12-16; Rom. 15:6; Phil. 2:2).
9. "Believers", not infants, were added to the Lord (5:14; Mk. 15:16; Acts 18:8).
10. Jealousy will cause some people to do bad things (5:17; Acts 7:9; 13:45; 17:5; Jas. 3:14, 16).
11. Christians still have the privilege of speaking "the words of this Life" and preaching "Jesus as the Christ" (5:20, 42; Jn. 6:63, 68).
12. When called upon to defend your faith, don't be timid or fearful (5:29-33; 2 Tim. 1:7).
13. There are times when civil disobedience is necessary. When faced with two opposing commands, we must obey God rather than men (5:29; Ex. 1:15-22; Dan. 6:4-15).
14. When you hear the truth, you can either be "pricked in the heart" to obey (2:37), or "cut to the heart" to disobey (5:33; Psa. 73:21; Acts 7:54).
15. No one can overthrow the work of God (5:39; Prov. 21:30).
16. It is an honor to suffer dishonor for "the Name" of Jesus (5:41; Jn. 15:21; Jas. 2:7; 1 Pet. 4:16).