

“Do Not Grieve God’s Holy Spirit!”

Acts 5:1-11

But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. 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. 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? 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.*” Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So Great Fear (Awe) Came Upon All Those Who Heard These Things. And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him. Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. And Peter answered her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?” She said, “Yes, for so much.” 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.*” 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. So Great Fear Came Upon All The Church And Upon All Who Heard These Things.

Acts 5:1-11 (NKJV)

Scripture

But a certain man named *Ananias*, with *Sapphira* his wife, sold a possession. 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.

Acts 5:1-2

Q

“Was This Couple Required To Sell A Part Of Their Possessions Or Land And Hand The Proceeds Over To The Apostles And The Church?”

A

No!

They Were Required To Tithe 10% & At Least A 1% Offering On Their Income Or On Any Sale Of Possessions & / Or Land!

Supporting Old Testament Scripture

“For I AM the Lord, I do not change; therefore, you are not consumed, O Sons of Jacob. Yet from the days of your fathers *You Have Gone Away From My Ordinances and Have Not Kept Them. Return to Me, and I Will Return to You.*” Says the Lord of Hosts. “But you said, ‘In what way shall we return?’ ‘Will a Man Rob God? Yet You have Robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In Tithes (10%) & Offerings (1%). You Are Cursed with a Curse, for You Have Robbed Me, Even this Whole Nation. Bring All The Tithes Into The Storehouse, that there may be Food in My House, And Try Me Now In This,” Says the Lord of hosts, “If I Will Not Open For You The Windows Of Heaven And Pour Out For You Such Blessing That There Will Not Be Room Enough To Receive It. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field” Says the Lord of hosts; “And All Nations Will Call You Blessed, For You Will Be A Delightful Land,” Says the Lord of hosts!”

Malachi 3:6-12

Scripture

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? 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.” **Acts 5:3-4***

Q

“What Did Ananias Actually Do That Was Wrong?”

A

He Conspired With His Wife To Trust In Themselves Rather Than God!

A

He Grieved The Holy Spirit Of God

By Being Deceitful & Proud Before God & God’s People!

Scripture

Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last ... And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him. **Acts 5:5a & 6**

Q

“Why Did God End His Life So Suddenly?”

A

**Because He Attempted To Bring Dishonor On God, God’s People,
And To Stop God’s Work Of Salvation, Healing,
& Bringing His Kingdom To Earth!**

Scripture

Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, Not knowing what had happened. And Peter answered her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?” She said, “Yes, for so much.” 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.*” 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. **Acts 5:7-10**

Q

“What Did Sapphira Actually Do That Was Wrong?”

A

She Conspired With Her Husband To Trust In Themselves Rather Than God!

A

She Also Grieved The Holy Spirit Of God

By Being Deceitful & Proud Before God & God’s People!

Q

“Why Did God End Her Life So Suddenly?”

A

**Because She Attempted To Bring Dishonor On God, God’s People,
And To Stop God’s Work Of Salvation, Healing,
& Bringing His Kingdom To Earth!**

Q
“What Was The Outcome On God’s People In The Church?”

Q
**“What Was The Outcome On All The People All Around The Church
Who Had Not Yet Come To Faith In God Through His Son Jesus Christ?”**

A
So Great Fear (Awe) Came Upon All Those Who Heard These Things ...
... So Great Fear (Awe) Came Upon All The Church And Upon All Who Heard These Things.
Acts 5:5b & 11 (NKJV)

Q
**“What Does Fear & Awe Of God Bring As A Result Among
All Those People Who Do Not Yet Believe In God In Christ?”**

A
**An Openness To Hear & Look Into, & Decide The Claims
Made Through The Preaching & Teaching
Of The Full Good News Of The Gospel Of Jesus Christ**

A
**A Great Sorrow, Grief, & Need For Repentance Of Their Sins
In Order To Restore Their Lost Relationship With God Their Father!**

Q
**“What Does Fear & Awe Of God Bring As A
Result Among His People In The Church?”**

A
Obedience To God’s Commandments & Will

A
**A Greater Enthusiasm, Fervor, & Willingness
To Boldly Preach, Teach, & Serve In His Name**

Let Us Be Resolved!

**Let Us Truly Allow The Fear & Awe Of Our God
To Fall Upon Each Of Us Individually & As A Church!
Let Us Turn Form Any Sin We Still Are Holding Back
Into Perfect Obedience To God The Holy Spirit’s Direction In Our Lives!**

**Let Us Be Resolved To Give To God Freely & Joyfully
Of Our Time, Talent, & Tithes, & Offerings**

**That He Has Given To Us & Continues To Give Us
As A Blessing & A Provision For Our Lives
& For The Betterment & Blessing Of Others’ Lives!**

**Let Us Surrender Our Will To The Will Of God
For Us Individually & As A Church!
And Let Us Continue To Pray For Boldness In God’s Holy Spirit
That We May Continue To Preach & Teach
The Full Gospel Of The Good News Of
Blessing, Healing, & Salvation Found Only
In The Holy Name Of Jesus Christ Our Lord!**