

“Premeditated Prideful Pretense”- Caught in the Acts - Part 3

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I. Misappropriation

Acts 5:1–2 (NLT)

But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. 2 He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife’s consent, he kept the rest.

Giving is not a **Financial** issue; it is a **Discipleship** issue.

Submission does not include **Submitting** to sin.

2 Samuel 24:24 (NLT)

24 But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have cost me nothing.” So, David paid him fifty pieces of silver for the threshing floor and the oxen.

2 Corinthians 9:7–8 (NLT)

7 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” 8 And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need, and plenty left over to share with others.

Romans 12:1 (NLT)

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice, the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

Ephesians 5:24 (NLT)

24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.

II. Motivation

Acts 5:3–4 (NLT)

3 Then Peter said, “Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself. 4 The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away. How could you do a thing like this? You weren’t lying to us but to God!”

If our **Motivation** is not right, our **Means** and our **Methods** don’t matter.

Public **Spirituality** does not always equal personal **Reality**.

1 Timothy 6:10 (NLT)

10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

James 3:14 (NLT)

14 But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying.

Matthew 6:1 (NLT)

"Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven.

2 Timothy 3:5 (NLT)

5 They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

III. Mortality

Acts 5:5–11 (NLT)

5 As soon as Ananias heard these words, he fell to the floor and died. Everyone who heard about it was terrified. 6 Then some young men got up, wrapped him in a sheet, and took him out and buried him. 7 About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 Peter asked her, "Was this the price you and your husband received for your land?" "Yes," she replied, "that was the price." 9 And Peter said, "How could the two of you even think of conspiring to test the Spirit of the Lord like this? The young men who buried your husband are just outside the door, and they will carry you out, too." 10 Instantly, she fell to the floor and died. When the young men came in and saw that she was dead, they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. 11 Great fear gripped the entire church and everyone else who heard what had happened.

God forgives **Lives** when we stop **Lying** about our **Lying**.

Corruption will disrupt the **Progress** of the **People**.

Joshua 7:11 (NLT)

11 Israel has sinned and broken my covenant! They have stolen some of the things that I commanded must be set apart for me. And they have not only stolen them but have lied about it and hidden the things among their own belongings.

1 John 5:16 (NLT)

16 If you see a fellow believer sinning in a way that does not lead to death, you should pray, and God will give that person life. But there is a sin that leads to death, and I am not saying you should pray for those who commit it.

Hebrews 12:6 (NLT)

6 For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child."

Proverbs 3:12 (NLT)

12 For the Lord corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.