



**THE BOOK OF ACTS**  
**Chapter 5**  
**“We Are His Witnesses!”**

**(v1-11) Here we, WITNESS GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS!**

(v1-10) Ananias means “God is Gracious”; Sapphira means “Beautiful.” They were neither!

The sins conceived in their hearts were **SELF-GLORY, GREED AND DECEPTION!**

- **CHRISTIAN INTEGRITY:** All things are done for **GOD’S GLORY!**

What can I **GIVE**, not what can I **GET!**

Speak the **TRUTH IN LOVE!**

(v11) In Acts chapter 4 we saw “**GREAT POWER**” & “**GREAT GRACE**”; in chapter 5 we find “**GREAT FEAR**.” (Hebrews 12:28-29 - *Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.*)

- **Definition of FEAR** - A feeling of reverence, awe, and respect, or an unpleasant emotion caused by a sense of danger. Fear may be directed toward God or man, and it may be either healthy or harmful. A healthy fear is reverence or respect. The Bible teaches that children are to respect their parents (**Leviticus 19:3**), wives are to respect their husbands (**Ephesians 5:33**), and slaves are to respect their masters (**Ephesians 6:5**). The Scriptures also declare that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge” (**Proverbs 1:7**) as well as “the beginning of wisdom” (**Proverbs 16:16**). (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

**(v12-16) Here we, WITNESS GOD’S MIRACLES!**

> The Apostles performed **SIGNS** and **WONDERS**. The **SIGNS** represented God’s signature upon them. The **WONDERS** displayed the glorious power found in the name of **JESUS CHRIST!**

**(v17-28) Here we, WITNESS MAN’S PERSECUTION!**

(v17-18) Who are the **SADDUCEES**? They are members of a Jewish faction that opposed Jesus during His ministry. Known for their denial of the bodily resurrection, the Sadducees came from the leading families of the nation, the priests, merchants, and aristocrats. The high priest and the most powerful members of the priesthood were mainly Sadducees.

(19-20) Angels appear in the Book of Acts 8:36; 10:3,7; 12:7-11,22,3; 27:23. In Hebrews 1:14 we read, *Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to SERVE those who will inherit salvation?* What did the angel tell them to do? “*To speak to the people all the words of this life.*” What is this life? John 10:10 - *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.* John 5:24-25 - *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.*”

(v25-28) Notice they are **TEACHING** the people, establishing sound **DOCTRINE**.

**(v29-42) Here we, WITNESS GOD’S REVOLUTION!**

(v29-31) Peter refers to Jesus as the **PRINCE & SAVIOR!** Prince speaks of “A pioneer, one who leads the way.” Savior had a three-fold understanding to this religious council:

(1) A **PHYSICIAN** – One who saves lives;

(2) A **PHILOSOPHER** – One who solves humanities problems;

(3) A **STATESMAN** – One who secures people from danger and war. Notice that God is offering **REPENTANCE AND FORGIVENESS** of sins to Israel. The same is also offered to the Gentiles as we read

in Acts 11:18 – *When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto LIFE.”*

(v33-39) GAMALIEL – A famous member of the Jewish Sanhedrin and a teacher of the Law. Gamaliel, who had taught Paul (Acts 22:3), advised the Sanhedrin to treat the apostles of the young Christian church with moderation. Gamaliel’s argument was simple. If Jesus were a false prophet, as many others had been, the movement would soon fade into obscurity. If, however, the work was “of God,” he pointed out “*you cannot OVERTHROW it*” (Acts 5:39). (Good advice, do not fight against God!)

(v40-42) The apostles were BEATEN, but not DEFEATED! They were commanded to be silenced but declared His name with greater boldness. What did they do and say? Acts 5:42 – *Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.*