

THE SINS OF ANNIAS AND SAPPHIRA

ACTS 5:1-11

Introduction:

A. The Church of Jerusalem Has Enjoyed the Fruit of Unity.

- 1) "one heart and one soul"
- 2) "great grace and great power"

B. They have benefited from sharing

- 1) Some sold their possessions
- 2) They laid them at the Apostle's feet
- 3) A good example, Joses, Barnabas

C. We now view a bad example

- 1) Some never seem to understand
- 2) They do many things for self
- 3) Often have Pastoral encouragement

I. The Partners In Sin 5:1-2

A. The act itself Vs. 1

- 1) Man and wife often agree on sin
- 2) "Sold a Possession", landed property
- 3) Was probably not good property!

B. The sin Vs. 2

- 1) "kept back" = nosphizomai = "to embezzle", "to secretly take a part of a larger quantity which had been given to one as a trust."
- 2) "being privy" = suneiduies = "to share knowledge"
- 3) "certain part" = meros = "part of a whole"
- 4) "and brought only part of it"
- 5) "laid it at the Apostle's feet"

C. The warning of Jesus

- 1) Hypocrisy Luke 12:1
- 2) covetousness Luke 12:15

II. The Silliness of Their Sin 3-4

A. Annias listened to Satan

- 1) "Satan has taken possession of your heart"
- 2) "from the heart", a man lies because he is a liar and not because he tells lies.

B. Annias attempted the impossible

- 1) "lie to the Holy Spirit"
- 2) God knows our heart
- 3) "keep back part of the price"

C. The irony of the sin

- 1) "whiles it remained, was it not thine own?"
- 2) "after it was sold, was it not in thine own power?"
- 3) "conceived" = tithemi = "to set or place for one's self", "to fix as in the mind"
- 4) This was in his heart, He was not with one heart and with one soul
- 5) James 1:12-15
- 6) When one lies to the church, one lies to God. When we lie to a man of God, we lie to God.

D. The seriousness of the sin Vs. 5

- 1) "fell down and gave up the Ghost"
- 2) exepsuxen = "to breathe out", "to expire" a term used by medical writers.
- 3) Those who heard feared, "great fear"

E. The end of all sin Vs. 6

- 1) "and sin when it hath finished"
- 2) The end of sin is the cemetery
- 3) The younger men wrapped him in a shroud and took him and buried him

III. Three Hours After.....Vs. 7-10

A. Sapphira comes to glory in the gift Vs. 7

- 1) She didn't know Vs. 7
- 2) I don't know why!

B. To tell the truth Vs. 8

- 1) Did you?
- 2) "yes we did", she replied smiling
- 3) expected a compliment

C. Be sure your sin will find you out! Vs. 9

- 1) "agreed" = sumpsonao = "symphony", "to speak a thing together with another"
- 2) They tempted God
- 3) the return of the pallbearers

D. The Death of Sapphira

- 1) She immediately dropped dead
- 2) They buried them side by side

IV. The Benefits of a Double Funeral Vs. 11

A. "And great fear came upon all the church"

- 1) "great" = megas =
- 2) "fear" = phobas = terror, fright

B. "and upon as many as heard these things"

- 1) When the church is right, the world fears it.
- 2) Lost people fear a true church!

C. Vs. 13

- 1) Join = kollao = "to glue together", "to adhere", "to cleave to", "become one's servant"