

## Acts 5 shape and keywords

But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a property; with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' **feet**.

"Ananias," Peter asked, "**why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit** and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land?

While it remained, did it not remain yours? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds in your authority?

**Who put it in your heart to do this? You did not lie to us but to God!"**

Now when Ananias heard these words, **he fell down and expired**. And great fear seized all who heard of it. The young men came and wrapped up his body, **then carried him out and buried him**.

After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter answered toward her, "Tell me: did you give a great price for the property?" And she said, "Yes, a great price." Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed 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."

Immediately **she fell down at his feet and expired**. When the young men came in they found her dead, **so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband**. And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

Now many signs and wonders were done in the people through the hands of the apostles. And they were all of one mind in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared to associate with them, but the people made them great.

Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord, **crowds of both men and women, so that they even carried out the weak into the streets**,

and laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might overshadow some of them as he came by.

**A crowd of people would also gather** from the towns around Jerusalem, **bringing the weak** and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

Then **the high priest stood up<sup>1</sup>, he and all who were with him** (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, laid their hands on the apostles and **put them publicly into the prison<sup>2</sup>**.

But during the night a messenger of the Lord opened the **prison** doors, led them out, and said, "Go, **be stationed in the temple** and tell the people the whole message about this life." When they heard this, they entered **the temple** at daybreak and kept **teaching**.

When **the high priest and those with him** arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel and sent to the **prison** to have them brought. But when the underlings arrived, **they did not find them in the prison**; so they returned and reported, "**We found** the **prison** securely locked and the guards **standing** at the doors, but when we opened them, **we found** no one inside."

<sup>1</sup> Three Greek words are used here for "rise," "stand," or "get up".

<sup>2</sup> Three Greek words are used here for "prison"

Now when the captain of **the temple** and **the high priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them, wondering, "What is this that has happened?"**. Then someone arrived and announced, "Look, the men whom you put in **prison are standing in the temple and teaching** the people!"

Then the captain went with the underlings and brought them, but without violence, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

When they had brought them, **they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them**, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to **teach** in this name, and behold, **you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching** and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us."

But Peter and the apostles answered, "**We must obey God** rather than any human authority. The **God of our ancestors raised up Jesus**, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.

This is the one God **exalted** at his right as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

And we are witnesses to these things, and so is **the Holy Spirit whom God has given** to those who **obey him**."

When they heard this, they were sawn through and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a **teacher** of the law, respected by all the people, **stood up** and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time.

Then he said to them, "Men, Israelites, **watch carefully for yourselves what you propose to do to these men**.

For before this day, Theudas **rose up**, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, were inclined toward him; but he was taken away, and all **who were persuaded were dispersed** and came to nothing.

After him Judas the Galilean **rose up** at the time of the census and led people in revolt; he also perished, and all **who were persuaded were scattered**.

And now, I tell you, **keep away from these men and let them alone**; because if this plan or this work is of human origin, it will fall apart; but if it is of God, you will not be able to put them down—in that case you may even be found fighting against God!"

**They were persuaded** by him, and when they had called in the apostles, they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and let them go.

As they left the face of the council, they were rejoicing that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name. And every day in **the temple** and at home they did not cease to **teach** and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.