

## **Acts, Part 06**

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Ministered Wed., 6/10/20

### **Introduction Summary**

This lesson covers **Acts 4:36 through 5:42**. We will study how unity opened the door for a massive level of grace and judgment. In Chapter 5, we will see the apostles' attitude and actions, after being commanded not to preach in the name of Jesus.

- I. **Acts 4:36-37:** Take a closer look at Barnabas.
  - A. Barnabas was either prophet or teacher or both (Acts 11:19-24).
  - B. God called him and the Holy Ghost sent him forth (Acts 13:1-4).
  - C. Barnabas passed the money test (Acts 4:36).
  
- II. **Acts 5:1-2:** Ananias and Sapphira failed the money test.
  - A. **Acts 5:3:** They lied about what they gave.
  - B. **Acts 5:4:** They didn't have to give all of it. It was their choice.
  
- III. A floodgate of grace had been released in the earth.
  - A. When great grace is manifest, one must be exceptionally cautious.
  - B. **Acts 5:5:** Ananias died.
  - C. **Acts 5:7-10:** Sapphira lied and died on the spot. She tested the Lord (Jam. 1:13).
  
- IV. Can a Christian experience judgment? Yes.
  - A. Understanding communion is very important (1 Cor. 11:27-28).
  - B. The word *damnation* means judgment (1 Cor. 11:29).
  - C. Many people are weak and sickly (1 Cor. 11:30).
  - D. We must close the door to satan's work (John 10:10).
  - E. The Lord's body is the church (1 Cor. 12:27, Eph. 1:22-23).
    1. The body of Christ completes the ministry of Jesus (Eph. 1:22).
    2. Every part of the body is needed (1 Cor. 12:21-25).
    3. Staying in strife opens the door to sickness and premature death (1 Cor. 11:30).
  
- V. Judgment is simply the fulfilling of the Scripture.
  - A. Not one small part of the Word shall ever pass away (Mat. 5:18).
  - B. Seedtime and harvest shall never cease (Gen. 8:22).
  - C. We reap what we sow (Gal. 6:7-8).
  - D. The blessing and the curse depend on obedience (Deut. 28:1-14; 15-68).
  - E. Choose life that you may live (Deut. 30:19).

- VI. **Acts 5:11:** *Judgment* means to conclude, decree or determine. Ananias and Sapphira lied at a time when grace was manifest at a high level.
- VII. **Acts 5:12:** The phrase “*hands of the apostles*” signifies a principle doctrine of Christ.
- A. Laying on of hands is a principle doctrine of Christ (Heb. 6:1-2, Mar. 16:17).
  - B. In obedience to the scripture, we lay hands on the sick and many send us testimonies of their healing.
- VIII. **Acts 5:12:** Unity opened the door for this high level of grace.
- A. Deadly seed sown brings deadly results.
  - B. Solomon’s porch could hold thousands of people.
  - C. **Acts 5:13:** The people magnified the ministry gifts.
  - D. **Acts 5:14:** Multitudes of people were born again.
  - E. Complaining about what the pastor’s decisions brings about division.
  - F. **Acts 5:15:** Multitudes were healed, just by coming near to Peter.
  - G. **Acts 5:16:** At the time of high grace and unity, multitudes were healed.
- IX. **Acts 5:17-18:** The high priest put the Apostles in prison.
- A. **Acts 5:19-21:** The angel of the Lord gave them instruction.
  - B. They taught the people.
  - C. The average Christian needs more teaching than preaching.
  - D. **Acts 5:21-25:** They vanished from the prison.
  - E. The next morning, they were in the temple teaching the people.
- X. **Acts 5:26-33:** The civil authorities wanted to kill the Apostles.
- XI. **Acts 5:34-39:** Gamaliel gives wise counsel. God’s work cannot be stopped.
- XII. **Acts 5:40-41:** The apostles were commanded to stop preaching in Jesus’ name.
- A. They rejoiced in their suffering for Christ’s name.
  - B. **Acts 5:42:** They continued to preach Jesus Christ every day.
  - C. There is a time for civil disobedience (Acts 5:29).
  - D. We obey the law, unless it contradicts the Scripture.
    1. We are commanded to preach in Jesus’ name (Mark 16:15-18).
    2. Wisdom is necessary to know if we should proceed, when or where we are to proceed, and what He wants us to do.
    3. Always seek God for His direction (Jam. 1:5).

### Closing Summary

Unity in the body of Christ plays a key role in experiencing the great grace of God. With honesty and oneness, we will continue to see multitudes born again and healed, in this earth. In order for that to happen, we must seek God’s wisdom and continue to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ in obedience to God, rather than man.