

ACTS

CHAPTER 4:32-5:11

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX 163

TITLE:

“SIN WITHIN THE CAMP”

THEME:

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and “**you shall be witnesses to Me**” in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth.**“

Last Time...

The Three Basic Ingredients of Having
Church, Jesus Style !

1.) Prayer **IN FRONT** *of the Church*

2.) The Word **BEHIND** *the Church*

3.) Unity **INSIDE** *of the Church*

Wherever these Three Basic, “Essential” Ingredients are present

you can expect...

- Spiritual Growth **(change)**
- Personal Development **(opportunity)**
- Emotional Independence **(freedom)**

“GROWTH” WILL BE CERTAIN

When we are lacking in these things we become vulnerable

Both Personally & Corporately as a church

GROWTH WILL BE CERTAINLY “COSTLY”

Jesus Warned Us About The danger’s **TO** church growth.

The Parable of the “Mustard Seed”

Matthew 13:31-32

"The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed which a man sowed in His field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, *so that the birds of the air come and (nest or lodge) in its branches.*"

nest **GRK** *kataskenoo (katas-kay-no'-o)*
to camp down, to position one's self.
with the intentions to haunt or annoy.

SIN WITHIN THE CAMP ! *The Slayer of a Healthy Church*

Romans 6:14

For sin shall not have *dominion (ownership, mastery or POWER)* over you,
for you are not under law (POWERLESS) but under grace.

1. The Church In the World vv. 32-37

Jesus Prayed a Prayer that I wish He hadn't

John 17:15

"I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

Verses 32

One Heart

kardia (kar-dee'-ah);

feelings

and

One Soul

psuche (psoo-khay');

mind

They Had Been Born Again (Born from Above)

Verse 32b

"...They had all things in common..."

Fellowship **GRK**

Koinonia (koy-nohn-ee'-ah);

to have partnership, or communion,
to exchange, to have inter-course

A Generous spirit of Ownership & Stewardship

This was true COMMUNE-ISM. *Not the barbaric, forced communism of man's dictatorship,*
but the communing-ism of God's Lordship of **love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness,**
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

The Gospel Gulch Experience !
old friends, all in ministry today

Verses 33

is the result of “unity” among the saints

- they preached the **bible** with power.
- they attended to **prayer**. and
- they stood invincible by being in **unified** in spirit!

Verses 34-37

Love for God displayed upon men

Verse 37

Freely offered up by Barnabas, originally & willingly.

The True, Loving and Serving Church sets the stage for attack my prayer is that this church is known in hell that when devils drive by this place they shudder.

They didn't worry about tomorrow, next week, next year or themselves... **thinking about yourself** is about the most disgusting and shallow thing to do. Which leads to depression, and emotional, rather than spiritual decisions.

CHAPTER 5

2. The World In the Church vv. 1-11

Dangers that rob the church of power

the power drained by sin within.

A. Sin is Motivated By Pride

vv. 1-2

Verse 1

“But” in the Greek it is an expression of contrast or decay.

A Visual Dilemma

Ananias:

*His name means God is Gracious.
A Wealthy Man, Successful at business,
Known & Respected in Jerusalem*

Sapphira:

*Name means “Beautiful / Babe”
The wife spends the wealth
Known at all the Respected shops*

Satan attacks a healthy church from within
attacking **one**, then **two**, then a **few**.

Verse 2

*They wanted to be **seen**, considered “spiritual” like the rest church by an immediate, outward show of piety.*

Their sin was not so much that they told a lie
as it was of them “acting out” a lie. HYPOCRISY

hypocrite

GRK hupokrites

to assume a character other than your own to play the part of another

They had not considered the fact that
“THE HOLY SPIRIT was attending their church.

2 Corinthians 6:16

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

They left the gate open to the garden (that is the heart)

**It worked in the garden of God the Father
and it works today in church of Jesus the Son.
Satan attacks from within!!!**

B. Sin is Energized By Satan

vv. 3

Pastor Peter, looked right into those powerful, wealthy, influential eyes...
these two are big tithers.

to lie... They hadn't said a word! it was all in the thoughts, in their hearts.

Ananias Believed that God was not as near *to the church as did others.* He didn't practice the presence of God. He didn't realize that the church is Jesus' delight.

An “Exaggerated” Devotional Life To God

They mislead the people by causing them to think incorrectly

Like Lucifer

John 8:44

...He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. **When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.**

Oliver Wendell Holmes;

“Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle that fits them all”

Psalm 51:6

Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts...

“to keep back...”

They sold it for \$10,000 but said they sold it for \$5,000

The “**Amount**” Wasn’t the Issue

The Issue was that they “**LIED**” about it

Don’t say that you tithe $1/10$ when you give a third $1/3$

2 Corinthians 9:7

So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

cheerful

GRK

hilaros (hil-ar-os')

to be prompted by willingness to be anticipating with joy.

Malachi 3:8-9

"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' *In tithes and offerings. Mal 3:9 You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me...*

Don't say you're devoted until you are.

Antonia Stradivari said “when my hands are ideal, I rob God!”

C. Sin is Directed Against God (Church) vv. 4-9

2 Timothy 2:20-21

But in a great house (the church) there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. 21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from dishonor, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master,

Verse 4

The Gift of *the word of Knowledge*

Daniel 2:47

“...the God of gods, the Lord of kings, is a revealer of secrets...”

Proverbs 15:3

The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

Verse 5-6

Joshua 7

The Defeat at Ai

Achan commits the crime, yet the nation suffers the loss.

UNABLE TO STAND AGAINST THEIR ENEMIES

Turn To Leviticus 10

Nadab & Abihu, Aaron's son's offered to the Lord "strange fire"

IMITATION OR UN-CONSECRATED FIRE

Verse 7-8

the opportunity is given for Sapphira *to confess, she does not! Judgment falls!!!*

Verse 9

Deuteronomy 6:16

you shall not *test* the Lord your God.

test

HEB

nacah (naw-saw')

to adventure upon, to presume upon, to consider weak

2 Peter 3:8-9

...beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. **:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.**

Verse 10

She was Slain-in-the-Spirit

This is called Negative-Church-Growth

Does God Still Do This ?

_____ Yes _____

Church Government

He has also committed judgment to church leadership and to the church body...

TURN TO I CORINTHIANS 5:1-5

1 Corinthians 5:7

Therefore purge out the old leaven,

Galatians 5:9

A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: **:2** For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, **:3** unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, **:4** traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, **:5** **having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!**

D. Sin is Destroyed in the Church (God) *vv. 11*

The Purity of the early church *was so pronounced* that the hypocrite could not abide in it.

1 Timothy 3:15

I write to you that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in **the house of God**, which is **the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**

The Church.

Great Power, Great Grace (4:33) & Great Fear (5:11)

When my older brother *would be disciplined for some wrong done and my dad would apply the board of education to his seat of knowledge... I would start crying !!!*

Verse 11

God had Taken the lives of two people who

- told a Lie about a business transaction
- and acted out a lie about Church Giving

James 1:13-15

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. **:14** But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. **:15** **Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.**

Hebrews 10:29

Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

Hebrews 10:31

It is a **fearful thing** to fall into the hands of the living God.

This Week I received some interesting Mail

- *Have you had enough of church,*
- *Are you tired of boring sermons that make you feel bad*
- *Do you want a convenient, uplifting and humorous message*

2 Timothy 4:3

For the time will come when **they** will not **endure** (*put up with*) sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; **:4** and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables & *stories*.

Dear Reverend Hibbs

Experience Guaranteed Church Growth

Increase your numbers 50% a year

with the new & proven **Auto-Inviter**

That's Called Strange Fire

Next August we will mark our fourth year as a church
about 50 to 1,200+

Psalm 127:1

Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.