### Acts

## Chapter 5

1However, a man named AnaNias (along with his wife SapPhira) also sold some property that they owned, 2but he secretly kept part of the money… And his wife knew about this.  
  
Then he brought in part of it and laid it at the feet of the Apostles.  
  
3But Peter asked:  
  
 ‘AnaNias,  
  
 ‘Why has the Opposer made you so bold as to try to fool the Holy Breath and to secretly hold back some of the money for the field?  
  
 4‘As long you owned it, it was yours. And after you sold it, wasn’t the money still yours? So, why did you plan to do such a thing in your heart?  
  
 ‘You should understand that you weren’t lying to men, but to God!’  
  
5Well, just as he heard those words, AnaNias fell to the ground and died – which really frightened everyone who heard about it! 6Then some of the younger men got up and wrapped him in a cloth, and they carried him outside to be buried.  
  
7It was about three hours later that his wife arrived… And she didn’t know what had happened.  
  
8So Peter asked her:  
  
 ‘Tell me, did you sell the field for such-and-such amount?’  
  
And she answered:  
  
 ‘Yes, for such-and-such.’  
  
9Then Peter said:  
  
 ‘Why did you two agree to test the Spirit of Jehovah?  
  
 ‘Look! The feet of those who buried your husband are at the door, and they’ll carry you out also.’  
  
10And at that, she instantly dropped dead at his feet!  
  
So when the young men returned, they also found her dead and they carried her out to be buried next to her husband.  
  
11Well, when the whole gathering (and everyone else) heard about this, they were all frightened by the things that were happening.  
  
  
  
12Yet thereafter, many signs and omens continued to be performed among the people at the hands of the Apostles, who used to meet among the Columns of Solomon. 13It’s true that nobody else had enough courage to join them there, but the people continued to speak well of them, 14and large numbers of men and women kept on being added to those who believed in the Lord.  
  
15[So after that], people started bringing their sick out into the main streets lying on little beds and cots, so that when Peter passed by, his shadow could fall on some of them.  
  
16Also, throngs from the cities around JeruSalem kept coming, carrying sick people and those who were bothered by unclean spirits… And everyone was cured!  
  
17However, the High Priest and everyone with him (particularly the members of the SadDucees’ sect) became very jealous of this. 18So they attacked the Apostles and arrested them, then they locked them up in a public jail. 19But during the night, But during the night, <a href="https://2001translation.org/notes/yhwh-a-b-e" class="tnote">Jehovah’sBut during the night, <a href="https://2001translation.org/notes/yhwh-a-b-e" class="tnote">Jehovah’s</a> messenger opened the doors of the jail and brought them out, saying:  
  
 20‘Now go! Keep on standing in the Temple and telling the people everything about The Life.’  
  
21So after they were told this, they went back to the Temple at daybreak and started teaching again.  
  
Then when the High Priest and those who were with him finally arrived, they assembled the Jewish High Court, along with all the elders of the sons of IsraEl, and they sent [officers] to the jail to have [the Apostles] brought in.  
  
22But when the officers got there, they couldn’t find them in the lockup! So they reported back, 23saying:  
  
 ‘We found the jail locked and guards posted at the doors. But when we went in, we couldn’t find anyone inside!’  
  
24Well when the Temple captain and the Chief Priests were told this, they were confused and they wondered what had really happened.  
  
25But then someone came and reported:  
  
 ‘Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the Temple teaching the people!’  
  
26So the captain took his officers and brought them back peacefully (because they were afraid of being stoned by the people). 27Then they led them in and stood them in the Jewish High Court hall, where the High Priest questioned them and said:  
  
 28‘Although we ordered you not to teach about this name, {Look!} you’ve filled JeruSalem with your teachings, and you’re determined to bring the blood of this man down upon us!’  
  
29However, Peter and the rest of the Apostles replied:  
  
 ‘We must obey God as ruler rather than men!  
  
 30‘For it was the God of our fathers who raised this Jesus, whom you arrested and had hung on a tree. 31And after that, God raised him to His right hand to serve as the Primary Leader and Savior in order to cause IsraEl to repent so that He could forgive their sins!  
  
 32‘We’re witnesses to these things, as is the Holy Breath which God gave to those who are obeying Him as their ruler.’  
  
33Well, when [the leaders] heard this, they were really cut to heart and they wanted to murder [the Apostles]! 34But then a certain man stood up in the Jewish High Court hall (a Pharisee named GamaliEl, who was a highly-regarded teacher of the Law) and he commanded that the men be taken outside for a little while.  
  
35Then he said:  
  
 ‘Men of IsraEl,  
  
 ‘Be very careful about what you plan to do to these men.  
  
 36‘Do you remember when TheuDas came along saying that he was somebody important, and quite a few people (about 400 of them) followed him? But then he was done away with, and all those who listened to him were scattered and came to nothing.  
  
 37‘And after him, Judas the Galilean arose during the registration, and he drew people after him. But then he died, and all those who listened to him were scattered.  
  
 38‘So in this situation, I tell you not to mess with these men… Leave them alone! Because, if this thing that they’re doing is from men, it’ll be overthrown. 39But if it’s from God, you won’t be able to overthrow them and you’ll actually be fighting against God!’  
  
40Well [after he said that], they all agreed with him.  
  
So then they called the Apostles back in and had them whipped, and they ordered them to stop talking about the name of Jesus… And then they released them.  
  
41But as they were leaving the Jewish High Court, [the Apostles] were actually rejoicing because they’d been found worthy of being dishonored for [Jesus’] name!  
  
42So they didn’t stop after that… They kept on teaching and announcing the good news about Jesus the Anointed One every day, both in the Temple and in [private] homes.