

Book of Acts Study

Men of Grace

February 23, 2010

Acts 4:32-5:11

Brian Christie

Outline of Acts

- I. Introduction: Jesus ascends to the Father and gives a mission (1:1-11)**
 - A. Review of book 1 to the ascension (1:1-5)**
 - B. The ascension and final testament: A promise for thee disciples now and a promise to return (1:6-11)**

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- II. The early church in Jerusalem (1:12-6:7)**
 - A. Community life: Replacing Judas by depending on God and reconstituting the Twelve (1:12-26)**
 - B. Pentecost (2:1-41)**
 - 1. The event: The coming of the Spirit (2:1-13)**
 - 2. The explanation: The Spirit's coming shows Jesus is Lord-Messiah (2:14-36)**
 - 3. The reaction: Repent and receive the promised gift (2:37-41)**

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- C. Summary: Community life (2:42-47)**
- D. The healing of the lame man and the arrest of Peter and John (3:1-4:31)**
 - 1. The event: The healing of the lame man (3:1-10)**
 - 2. The explanation: Peter preaches Jesus from Torah and promise (3:11-26)**
 - 3. The arrest and the leadership's deliberation (4:1-22)**
 - 4. The community reaction: Prayer for boldness (4:23-31)**

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E. Community life and problems (4:32-5:11)

1. **All things in common: the example of Barnabas (4:32-37)**
2. **Deceiving the Spirit and judgment: Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-11)**

F. Summary: signs and wonders (5:12-16)

G. More persecution (5:17-42)

1. **Arrest, divine release, and rearrest (5:17-26)**
2. **Deliberation and release (5:27-42)**

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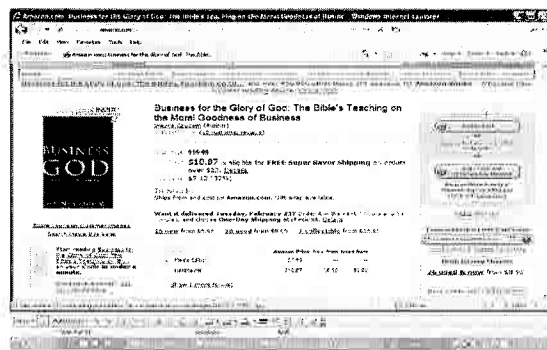
Outline of Acts

H. Community life: The appointment of the Seven to help Hellenist widows (6:1-6)

I. Summary of the Jerusalem community (6:7)

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Outline of Acts



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Discussion Questions

1. **Is 4:32-37 a picture of socialism? If not, why not? How should we apply these verses to us and the church today? Why is it more complicated to apply today?**
2. **What are the basic sins of Ananias and Sapphira in 5:1-11? What lesson is Luke (the Holy Spirit) trying to teach us through this passage?**

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³² All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. ³³ The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all. ³⁴ There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them ³⁵ and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. ³⁶ For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means "Son of Encouragement"). He was from the tribe of Levi and came from the island of Cyprus. ³⁷ He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles.

Acts 5

¹ But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. ² He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife's consent, he kept the rest. ³ Then Peter said, "Ananias, why have

you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself. ⁴ The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away. How could you do a thing like this? You weren't lying to us but to God!" ⁵ As soon as Ananias heard these words, he fell to the floor and died. Everyone who heard about it was terrified. ⁶ Then some young men got up, wrapped him in a sheet, and took him out and buried him. ⁷ About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. ⁸ Peter asked her, "Was this the price you and your husband received for your land?" "Yes," she replied, "that was the price." ⁹ And Peter said, "How could the two of you even think of conspiring to test the Spirit of the Lord like this? The young men who buried your husband are just outside the door, and they will carry you out, too." ¹⁰ Instantly, she fell to the floor and died. When the young men came in and saw that she was dead, they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. ¹¹ Great fear gripped the entire church and everyone else who heard what had happened.