

September 13, 20 - What's Happening Here?

Acts 5:1-11

Vv.1-2 - They are believers who gave in to the temptation of the evil one.

- The problem begins in the words "kept back".
 - Greek word means *to pilfer* or *to embezzle*.

Vv.3-4 - How did Peter know about the deception? God's revelation.

- Ananias and Sapphira had given in to the temptation of Satan.
 - Galatians 6:7-8
 - 1 Peter 5:8-9

- Peter tells Ananias that he has not lied to men, but to the Holy Spirit (v.3) and to God (v.4).

- Indicates the grievous severity and magnitude of his sin.

Vv.7-9 - Sapphira even had an opportunity to repent.

Vv.5-6,10 - How did they die? God's judgment.

- Peter clearly indicated to Sapphira that she was about to die (v.9).

Vv.5b,11 - "Great fear" - The believers knew God had brought His judgment upon Ananias and Sapphira for their sin.

This account serves as a grave reminder that God takes our sin seriously.

Similar to what Paul talks about in 1 Corinthians 11:20-22; 27-32 - taking the Lord's Supper irreverently.

- Vv.30-32

Ananias and Sapphira received God's judgment of punishment so that they couldn't go on in their deceptive sinful way and mislead and corrupt other believers into similar sinful ways.

- God knew what would have happened to the Church if He had not taken such a drastic measure of judgment on them right then.

- God was actually being gracious to Ananias and Sapphira and to the Church.