



Integrity or Great Fear?
Acts 5:1-16

Curt Deming
Melbourne Community Church
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All About Truth

- ❖ God hates lying.
- ❖ Satan is the “father of lies.”
- ❖ Humanity struggles with integrity.
- ❖ Jesus is “the way, the TRUTH and the life.”

A Spirit-filled church

- ❖ Devoted to the apostles' teaching
- ❖ Devoted to fellowship
- ❖ Devoted to "the breaking of bread"
- ❖ Devoted to prayer

Shaken, Not Shaken

- ❖ The Apostles were shaken by God.
- ❖ They were not shaken by circumstances.

Acts 5:1-2

Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 4:34-35

For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

Acts 4:36-37

Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means “son of encouragement”), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet.

Acts 5:3

Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?"

Genesis 3:5

“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman.

John 8:44

[Jesus]: “You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

Acts 5:4

“Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God.”

Proverbs 6:16-17

There are six things the LORD hates,
seven that are detestable to him:
haughty eyes,
a lying tongue,
hands that shed innocent blood,

Proverbs 6:18-19

a heart that devises wicked schemes,
feet that are quick to rush into evil,
a false witness who pours out lies
and a person who stirs up conflict
in the community.

The LORD hates ...

- ❖ Haughty eyes
- ❖ A lying tongue
- ❖ Hands that shed innocent blood
- ❖ A heart that devises wicked schemes
- ❖ Feet that are quick to rush into evil
- ❖ A false witness who pours out lies
- ❖ A person who stirs up conflict in the community.

Acts 5:5-6

When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.

Apostles re: judgment

- ❖ 1 Peter 4:17
- ❖ 1 John 5:16
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 10:6

1 Peter 4:17

For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

Acts 5:7-8

About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter asked her, “Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?”

Acts 5:9

Peter said to her, “How could you conspire to test the Spirit of the LORD? Listen! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also.”

Acts 5:10-11

At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband. Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.

“Great fear seized ...”

- ❖ **“ ... all who heard what had happened” (5:5).**
- ❖ **“ ... the whole church and all who heard about these events” (5:11).**

New Bible word: "church"

- ❖ Acts 5:11
- ❖ Acts 9:31
- ❖ Acts 11:36
- ❖ Acts 13:1
- ❖ Acts 20:28

F. F. Bruce:

“The story of Ananias is to the book of Acts what the story of Achan is to the book of Joshua. In both narratives an act of deceit interrupts the victorious progress of the people of God.”

John Stott:

“If the devil’s first tactic was to destroy the church by force from without, his second was to destroy it by falsehood from within. He has not given up the attempt, whether by the hypocrisy of those who profess but do not practice, or by the stubbornness of those who sin but do not repent.”



Acts 5:12

The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade.

Acts 5:13-14

No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the LORD and were added to their number.

Acts 5:15

As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by.

Acts 5:16

Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.

Signs and wonders in Acts:

- ❖ Acts 2:43-47
- ❖ Acts 4:32-35
- ❖ Acts 5:12-16



Like Jesus did:

- ❖ Mark 1:32-34
- ❖ Mark 5:21-29
- ❖ Mark 6:54-56

John 14:12

[Jesus]: “Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active.
Sharper than any double-edged sword,
it penetrates even to dividing soul and
spirit, joints and marrow; it judges
the thoughts and attitudes
of the heart.

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Integrity is/is not:

- ❖ It includes nonverbal communication.
- ❖ It includes “spin.”
- ❖ It does not require you to be undiplomatic, critical, judgmental, opinionated or a busybody.
- ❖ You are not required to participate fully in every conversation.

All About Truth

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- ❖ Satan is the “father of lies.”
- ❖ Humanity struggles with integrity.
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Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the LORD's Supper