

Bible Summary - Acts 5:1-11

Judgment

The Book of Acts from chapter 1 to 4 has been beautiful and nearly perfect. In chapter 5 this changes when two people conspire to sin. The results are dramatic and drastic leading readers to ask how did this happen and why was God so harsh. First, their sin like ours, is a symbiotic relationship. Satan captivates our hearts and we consent and sin is born. We can battle Satan by remembering our identity as new creations in Christ Jesus and appropriating the power and position we have been given. Secondly, God was harsh because He hates sin. Believers are supposed to have the same disposition to sin and evil. Regretfully, we are often entertained by sin instead of weeping and howling over sin and that is often how temptation begins.

Scriptures: Acts 5:1-11; Ezekiel 36:22-37; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 5:20-6:2, 12:9; Psalm 45:7, 97:10; Proverbs 8:13, Amos 5:15; Hebrews 1:9; James 4:8-9; 1 Corinthians 8:7; 1 Timothy 4:2; Hebrews 10:22; Matthew 23; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 1:10

Bible Questions and Application

(These are here as an aid in facilitating conversation.

There is no obligation to run through every question listed.)

1. What did Ananias and Sapphira do that was different than what Barnabas did?
2. Satan wants us to settle for cheap thrills rather than great joy. Why do we so often and so quickly choose satan's cheap thrills over God's great joy?
3. God loves His creation and gives us grace but He also hates sin. As Christians, what is our response to that?
 - a. Do you see where you have become desensitized to sin in your life?
 - b. If you tend to embrace grace and don't take sin that seriously, how does this show disbelief in Christ?
 - c. If you hate sin so much but have a hard time embracing grace and forgiveness, how does this also show disbelief in Christ?
4. Why is there such a tendency to maintain our Christianity by the keeping of checklists and appearances?
5. How can you root out hypocrisy in your life?
6. Ezekiel 36:25-27 tells us that God cleans us, gives us a new heart, and fills us with the Holy Spirit. This newfound identity in Christ empowers us to overcome sin in our lives. How can you live this truth out this week?