



The Testing of the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:1-16)

Study Notes Handout: Week Eleven

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?...What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men, but to God. - Acts 5:3 - 4

Grant Lord, that I may know myself that I may know Thee. - St. Augustine

Sermon Outline: Four Warnings and Three Blessings

Warnings:

1. Beware of Sinful Alliances (vs. 1 - 2)

2. Beware of Satanic Attack (vs. 3)

3. Beware of Self-Aggrandizement (vs. 4)

4. Beware of the Severity of God (vs. 5 - 11)

Blessings:

1. The Love of God for His People (vs. 1 - 11)

2. The Fear of God by His People (vs. 5, 11)

3. The Witness of God through His People (vs. 14 - 16)

Questions for Reflection / Discussion:

- i. How do you understand the severity of God's judgement in this N.T. story? Do you believe the events occurred? Do they offend you, or cause you fear? How do you 'justify God' in this action?

- ii. What does this passage teach about the Holy Spirit, the work of Satan, and the role of Church?

- iii. Do you get caught in self-aggrandizement? What kind of false version of you do you present to others? How do you answer the question in vs. 4 - *What makes you think of doing such things?*



Personal Study Notes

*Peter said to her, "How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord?
Look! The feet of the men who buried your husband
are at the door, and they will carry you out also."
Acts 5:9*

The Deceit of Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-11)

Rebellion in the Church (5:1-4)

Reaction to the Crime (5:5-11)

The Continuing Growth of the Church (5:12-16)

Reputation in the City (5:12-16)

Personal Prayer Points from this Passage:

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

1)

2)