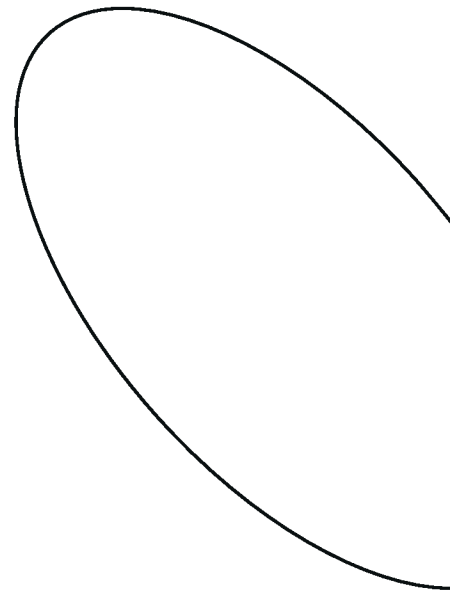




# acts.

## 5



### when.

- We don't have exact dates for the events in chapter 5.
- Most historians suggest the approximate dates of 29-35 AD.

### characters.

- **12 Apostles** – The men Jesus entrusted with the leadership of the early Church. Peter is especially highlighted in chapter 5.
- **Ananias and Sapphira** – A husband and wife who were killed by God.
- **The High Priest and Council** – Jewish leaders who hated Jesus and His message.

### where.

- All the significant events of chapter 5 appear to have happened in and around the city of Jerusalem.

## Notes

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## Reflection & Application

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# acts.

## outline.

- ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA LIE TO THE APOSTLES (5:1-11):
  - + A man named Ananias and his wife sold a piece of property and gave part of the proceeds to the Apostles, but they lied about how much they gave.
  - + Peter confronted Ananias about the lie and God punished him by striking him dead.
  - + Later, Peter asked Sapphira about their gift and she repeated the lie to him.
  - + As punishment, God struck her dead just like her husband.
- THE DISCIPLES MULTIPLY AND THE SICK ARE HEALED (5:12-16):
  - + The believers met together regularly in Solomon's Portico.
  - + The Apostles were performing many "signs and wonders."
  - + Multitudes of people were being converted to Christ.
  - + People from the surrounding towns brought their sick to be healed by the Apostles.
- THE APOSTLES ARE FREED FROM PRISON BY AN ANGEL (5:17-20):
  - + The High Priest was jealous of the success Jesus' disciples were enjoying.
  - + He had them arrested and put in the public prison.
  - + That night, an angel let them out of prison and told them to continue preaching.
- THE HIGH PRIEST AND COUNCIL QUESTION THE APOSTLES (5:21-42):
  - + In the morning, the Apostles went back to the Temple to preach.
  - + The High Priest and council were shocked when they learned the Apostles had escaped from the prison and returned to the Temple.
  - + The council sent men to bring the Apostles back for questioning, but they did it without force because they feared the reaction of the people.
  - + Peter told the council they would not stop talking about Jesus.
  - + He accused the council of killing Jesus but told them God has exalted Him as "Leader and Savior."
  - + The council was enraged by Peter's words and wanted to kill him, but a wise Pharisee named Gamaliel cautioned them not to act rashly.
  - + Instead of killing them, the council beat them and let them go.
  - + The Apostles rejoiced after the beating and continued preaching Jesus.

## application.

- There is serious danger in using the Church to bolster your personal pride and prestige.
- The severity of Ananias and Sapphira's punishment was a stern warning from God not to abuse His Church for personal gain.
- Past prayers effect present circumstances.
- In chapter 4:29, the disciples prayed for boldness to speak even in the face of threats.
- In chapter 5, they received the boldness they requested and were strengthened by God in their address to the council.