# "ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA"

## ACTS 4:36-5:11

1. **AN EXAMPLE OF SINCERE & GENUINE SACRIFICE (4:36-37)**
   1. Joses (Barnabas) Is Singled Out For Several Reasons
   2. Joses' Selfless Act Actually Became The Occasion For The Subterfuge That Followed
2. **AN EXAMPLE OF HYPOCRISY THROUGH A DISHONEST IMITATION (5:1-11)**
   1. The Core Issue Behind What Ananias & Sapphira Actually Did (5:1-2)
      1. They Were Not Punished Simply Because They Sinned In The Church
      2. They Were Not Punished Because They Failed To Make A Financial Contribution
      3. They Were Not Punished Because They Failed To Give Everything As Barnabas Did
      4. They Were Punished Because Of The Pretense That "Part" Was "All"
   2. The Source Behind This Hypocrisy (5:3-4,9)
      1. The Initial Suggestion Was Spawned By The Devil (5:3)
         1. A Wicked Spirit May Suggest Something To A Human Spirit Just As Directly & Understandably As One Wicked Person May Speak To A Christian
         2. It Is Difficult To Accept The Fact That Not All Of A Person's Thoughts Are Initially His Own
      2. The Suggestion Is Given Birth In The Mind Of Ananias (5:4)
      3. That Which Was First Conceived In One Becomes A Marital Agreement (5:9)
         1. A Wife's Submission To Her Husband Ends When The Husband Encourages Her To Sin
         2. Peter Actually Uses A Term For "Embezzlement"
   3. There Were Actually Two Sins Committed Against The Holy Spirit
      1. They Lied To God (5:3)
      2. They Lied To Someone Else Who Knew (5:9)
   4. The Death Dealing Judgment Of God (5:10-11)
      1. For Ananias, There Was No Opportunity For Repentance (5:5)
      2. We've Become So Accustomed To The Grace Of God That We Are Horrified By The Immediacy Of This Judgment
      3. The Whole Purpose For The Judgment Was To Spread A Healthy Fear Of God Through The Church (5:5,11)