

Integrity Rocks



Series: "Real Christianity: How It Flourished", Part 3 of 11

Sunday, January 18, 2026

Text: Acts 5:1-14

Big Idea: Integrity is important.

I. The Horrible Choice They Made.

Acts 4:34-35, "There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need."

Acts 4:36, "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 5:1-2, "Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. 2 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 5:4a, "Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal?"

Acts 5:3b, "You have lied to the Holy Spirit."

Acts 5:4b, "You have not lied to men but to God."

Acts 5:3b, "How is it that Satan has so filled your heart?"

II. The Severe Condemnation By God.

Acts 5:5a, "When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died."

Acts 5:7, "About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 Peter asked her, 'Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?'"

"Yes," she said, "that is the price." 9 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 5:10, "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."

Matthew 23:28, "In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness."

III. The Dramatic Consequences That Followed.

A. A reverent fear within the church.

Acts 5:5, "When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened."

Acts 5:11, "Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events."

Acts 5:13, "No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people."

B. A remarkable power upon the church.

Acts 5:14, "Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number."