

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

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Review of Acts 1-4

- **Acts 1**: Jesus promises the Holy Spirit, ascends, and Matthias is chosen as a replacement.
- **Acts 2**: Holy Spirit falls on apostles, Peter preaches, and 3,000 respond.
- **Acts 3**: A lame man is healed and Peter preaches his second sermon.
- **Acts 4**: Peter and John are forbidden to speak but refuse to follow man's orders.

Don't be a Hypocrite

- **Acts 5:1-11**
- **Why would they lie? What would they gain?**
 - 5:4 reveals Christians were under no obligation to sell their lands, and if they did, they were not forced to donate anything!
 - Money does not appear to be the key motivator.
- **Cf. 4:32, 36, 37**
 - Did Ananias and Sapphira want the praise Barnabas received without the sacrifice he underwent?

Appreciate the Apostles

- **5:17-21**

- Had been told not to preach (Acts 4) yet continue to do so.
- Told to go and speak (v. 20) and do so very soon (v. 21).

- **5:27-32**

- Peter does the very thing he is prohibited from doing in front of the council.

- **5:40-42**

- Beaten, yet continue preaching.

Wise Advice?

- **Did Gamaliel offer wise counsel? 5:34-40**
- **Gamaliel offered *some* wise counsel:**
 - **You cannot win a fight against God. (v. 39)**
- **Yet, Gamaliel's approach was not correct.**
 - **Gamaliel takes a wait and see approach.**
 - **Where has God ever asked us to do that?**
 - **1 Thessalonians 5:21, 22; 1 John 4:1**

Churches, Problems, and Solutions

- **Good churches have problems. Acts 6:1-7**
- **Good churches keep the main thing the main thing. (v. 2, 4)**
- **Good churches work to find solutions to their problems.**
 1. **Apostles did not allow the problem to fester or give room for further complaints. (6:2-4)**
 2. **Apostles use wisdom in finding a solution that is effective and satisfies all parties involved. (6:1, 5, 6)**
 - **The 7 men chosen to serve have Greek names.**
 3. **After a temporary distraction, the church unites behind its main objective. (6:7)**