

Church – The Beginnings, Part 14
Obediently Preaching the Gospel - No Matter What
Acts 5:12-42 | 01/29/2017
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP
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Links to Our Current Teaching Series and Previous Teachings:

Current Series: Church, The Beginnings → NLFJI.org/ACTS

Sections in Acts up to this point (similar to “episodes”):

Acts 1 → Transition from the Gospels to just before the day of Pentecost

Acts 2 → The Day of Pentecost, Peter’s Preaching, and the forming of the first church of Jesus Christ

Acts 3:1 – 4:31 → The Healing in the Temple (Miracles), More Gospel Preaching, More folks saved, Persecution and More Preaching of the Gospel

Acts 4:32 – 5:42 → Community of Faith, Finances, God’s Judgment against Ananias & Sapphira, Gospel Preaching, Miracles, Persecution, More Preaching, Community of Faith

1. **The Community of Faith – it was not communism – but possessions were to be used for the common purpose of loving one another and spreading the gospel of Christ not for self-indulgence, etc. (see Luke 12:15; 14:33; Acts 2:44-45) – taking care of all those folks who would’ve gone home to their home countries after Pentecost – were still there.**
2. **What we have NOT seen in Acts, NOR will we ever see within the entire New Testament set of Documents:**
 - a. **Modern-Day Street Preaching**
 - b. **Scheduled Christian Miracle and Healing Services or Ministries**
 - c. **Any distinct, succinct, and concise teaching about a “2nd Work of the Holy Spirit” after a person is saved. (i.e.: The Modern Pentecostal/Charismatic Doctrine of the “Baptism of the Holy Spirit” → <https://NLFJI.org/BOH>)**
 - d. **Any Apostle of Christ or Disciple of Christ celebrating: Christmas, Easter, any “saints days”, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Epiphany, or anything like those, so-called religious “Christian” celebrations and/or holidays. Those were not “invented” until more than 400 years later via the Roman Catholic church blended paganism with Christianity and Judaism, etc. (most Christians, today, have no clue about this, BTW)**
3. **After the Divine Intervention upon Ananias and Sapphira (i.e. the killings) God opened the Doors for more Gospel Proclamation and Miraculous Signs and Wonders through the Apostles to Confirm His Word. (Acts 5:12-16) How does the FEAR of the LORD help with the Gospel? Who does God open the doors for? → The Totally Surrendered Servants/Slaves of Christ Do we qualify? Do you, personally, qualify?**
4. **What was the Deep-Seated Motivation of the Religious-Political Leaders (i.e. the Sadducees) in their Persecution against the Apostles? (Acts 5:17-18; 28; 32) Jealousy and Pride
→ We should always Expect Persecution when we Obediently Spread the Gospel**
5. **What was God’s Answer to the Apostles Imprisonment (that was really “false imprisonment”)? (Acts 5:19-20) → Go Back to Solomon’s Porch and Keep Preaching the Word of God ...**
6. **What was the Apostles’ Answer to the Sadducees? (Acts 5:29-32)
→ “... We MUST Obey God rather than man ...”
How should we view “man’s laws” compared to God’s commands?**
7. **Do you think God used Gamaliel (the future, apostle Paul’s mentor) in intervening on behalf of the Apostles? Was what he said, “the Gospel truth, always”? (Acts 5:34-40)**
8. **What was the Apostles’ response to their beatings (persecution) on behalf of the Name of Christ? (Acts 5:41-42)
Would that be your response? Why didn’t they retaliate? (Matt.5:10-12, 43-48; Rom.12:14,17-20)**

Acts 5:12-42

And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in **Solomon's Porch**.¹³ Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.¹⁴ And believers were increasingly **added to the Lord**, multitudes of both men and women,¹⁵ so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.¹⁶ Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and **they were all healed**.

¹⁷ Then the **high priest** rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the **Sadducees**), and they were filled with **indignation**,¹⁸ and laid their hands on the apostles and **put them in the common prison**.¹⁹ But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said,²⁰ **"Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life."**

²¹ And when they heard that, they entered the temple early in the morning and **taught**. But the high priest and those with him came and called the council together, with all the elders of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

²² But when the officers came and **did not find them** in the prison, they returned and reported,²³ saying, "Indeed we found the prison shut securely, and the guards standing outside before the doors; but when we opened them, **we found no one inside!**"²⁴ Now when the high priest, the captain of the temple, and the chief priests heard these things, **they wondered what the outcome would be**.

²⁵ So one came and told them, saying, **"Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!"**

²⁶ Then the captain went with the officers and brought them **without violence**, for they **feared the people**, lest they should be stoned.²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them,²⁸ saying, "Did we not **strictly command** you not to teach in this **NAME**? And look, you have **filled Jerusalem with your doctrine**, and **intend to bring this Man's blood on us!**"

²⁹ But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: **"We ought to obey God rather than men.**³⁰ The God of our fathers raised up Jesus **whom you murdered** by hanging on a tree.³¹ Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to **give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins**.³² And we are His **witnesses** to these things, and so also is the **Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.**"

³³ **When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them.**³⁴ Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named **Gamaliel**, a **teacher of the law held in respect by all the people**, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while.³⁵ And he said to them: "Men of Israel, **take heed to yourselves** what you intend to do regarding these men.³⁶ For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing.³⁷ After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed.³⁸ And now I say to you, **keep away from these men** and let them alone; **for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing;**³⁹ **but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God.**"

⁴⁰ **And they agreed with him**, and when they had called for the apostles and **beaten them**, they commanded that they should **not speak** in the name of Jesus, and let them go.⁴¹ So they departed from the presence of the council, **rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name**.⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they **did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ** (as the Messiah).