

CAPITAL CITY



CHURCH OF CHRIST

8925 E. 42nd Street ~ Indianapolis, IN 46226 ~ 317-890-0580

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Behavioral Purity: A Core Christian Principle

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“But Peter said, Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”

Acts 5:3, 4

It is apparent that in the early stages of the Church’s expansion, God did not allow believers to misrepresent or stagnate the growth of the Kingdom, under certain circumstances. The outcome of this tragic narrative among believers seemed to shake the church at its core. Notice Luke’s documentation of the churches’ response: **“So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.”** For certain, we ought to pay close attention to this passage; the message for Christians ought not be overlooked, instead, we should process its reality carefully for eternal purposes.

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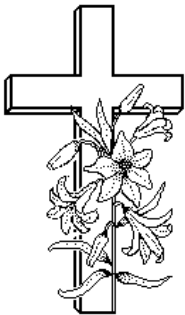
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The text highlights four questions that were posed to Ananias, which he seemingly failed to consider as he made a personal decision that minimized his relationship with God and the Church. **As a result, Ananias allowed an unaddressed sinful impulse to exercise impure force over the church that explains the divine execution of both him and his wife.** It is clear from the results of their deaths that the Holy Spirit was not accepting behavior that could have impaired the numerical and spiritual growth of the Church, at that time. What we should consider from a scriptural perspective is that these believers did not sense their responsibility to evaluate their sinful impulses, nor did they process in the moment their need to be loyal to the truth.

As a point of consideration, regarding the above spiritual responsibility that accompanies Christian commitment; **what should all believers be fully aware of in the mist of temptation to sin against God?** Know for sure that the Satan’s goal is to attack the heart, often considered the center of human emotion. Satan appears to engage in a pattern of checking in on our core values. Seemingly, he believes that if he can grant us sinful desires, and if we are receptive (do not apply God’s Word: Matt. 4:1-11) to the temptation, we will fall into his trap and sin against God. Furthermore, Ananias and Sapphira apparently did not think through their decision to deceive God for vain glory (self-image). If they did process their decision, they apparently did not intend to do the right thing for the right reason/motive.

I hope what we learn from the teaching within the above passages is to be ...” slow to speak.” **If we truly desire to manage our impulses that often cause much personal grief and surely widespread damage to our spiritual witness, then we must understand that impure behavior is an offence” against God”.** The habit that many believers have responding to situations impulsively must be broken by doing personal work on self. Would you rather have people appreciate your skill to exercise self-control (a fruit of the spirit) and benefit from an encounter with you, or would you rather, throughout your whole life be offensive and ineffective at reaching souls for God? To achieve the former and avoid the later, we must be willing to transition away from emotional and psychological behavior approaches that are destructive. In essence, transition takes place while spiritual conviction/truth is elevated. It is in that location where transformation into Christlikeness takes place.



Schedule of Weekly Services:

Sunday

Bible Study 10:30 am
Worship 11:30 am

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

With much Christian love,
C. K. Stewart I, Minister

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Painters needed** – Every **Saturday** we will be painting the inside of the building. Everyone’s help is needed. If you are available, please see Sis. Woods for times.
- † **After School Tutoring** – Starting September 5th, we will be offering free after school tutoring for youth K – 12th grade here at the building. Every Monday and Wednesday from 4:30-6pm. If you would like to volunteer as a tutor please see Sis. Woods. If you know of anyone in the area who needs tutoring, spread the word.
- † **Youth Activity** – immediately following worship service **Sept. 9th** and every 2nd Sunday of the month. All youth and their parents are encouraged to join us for lunch and nursing home visit to sing songs.
- † **Benevolence Ministry** – please remember our twice a month food giveaway here at the church building. We still need volunteers on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 5:45 to 6:45pm. If you are interested in working with this ministry, please see Sis. Taylor.
- † **Congregational Cleaning** - Beginning at 10am on Saturday, **Sept. 15th** and every 3rd Saturday of each month. All members are asked to help clean the inside and outside of the building.
- † **Ladies’ Prayer Class** – all ladies are encouraged to join us for a time of prayer and fellowship following worship service, **Sept. 16th**, and every 3rd Sunday of the month.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Announcements	C.K. Stewart, I	<u>Usher</u>
Songs	C. Taylor	C. Wilkins
Scripture Reading	D. Bigelow	
Opening Prayer	C.K. Stewart, I	<u>Assistants</u>
Sermon	C.K. Stewart, I	D. Clark
Invitation Prayer		& C. Wilkins
Communion & Collection	D. Bigelow Sr.	
Welcome Visitors	C.K. Stewart, I	<u>Greeter</u>
Benediction	N. Mathis	L. Woods
Cup Collection	Marcus & Timothy	
Mission Collection	Caleb	

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

1. Hear the Gospel.....Rom. 10:13-14 & 17
2. Have Faith in Christ.....Eph. 1:13; Heb. 11:6
3. Repent of Past Sins.....Luke 13:3, 24:47, Acts 17:30
4. Confess Jesus Christ.....Rom. 10:9; Acts 8:35-39
5. Be Buried in Baptism.....Acts 2:38; Rom 6:1-6
6. Be Faithful Until Death.....Rev. 2:10

Thank you for visiting the Capital City Church of Christ, where we are striving to worship as the Bible commands. The Church of Christ is God-oriented, Christ-centered, soul-conscious, color blind, and heaven bound. We are ever moving, ever trusting, ever loving and ever serving the interest of our King.

Come **worship** with us willingly as we **evangelize** everyone by making **disciples** who will mature through **ministry** and **fellowship** fraternally. Our minister is available for Bible study and counseling by appointment.

With Christian Love, Dr. C.K. Stewart, I, Minister