

Ananias and Sapphira (Ac. 5:1-11)

Today's message is entitled Ananias and Sapphira. Of course if you just merely read it you may have many questions about it. Especially compared to the present believers of this time Ananias and Sapphira did a great job. They sold a piece of their property and yet they kept some for themselves but no one was like them to which they were able to give the rest for offering. They did such a great job but yet it is God who called these two away. Of course they may have children but regardless of that God put them to death. Of course, you may read it and not be able to comprehend it but there is an important message of God behind it. I do believe that God will bless us when you uncover it and hold to it as the covenant. We compare our lives to the wilderness. In other words it's because life itself is difficult. Of course, the wilderness was a very difficult place to live. It was only full of sand and rocks and it was very windy. Of course they were under the hot sun. It's quite difficult for anyone to survive for even less than a day but yet the Israelites lived there for forty years. Regardless of the hardships there is a tremendously important message behind life in the wilderness. Of course, for them to live in the wilderness for forty years they need continuous miracles to take place. Of course, it was a miracle for them to see the ten plagues that were upon them during the time of the Exodus. Not only was the splitting of the Red Sea a miracle for them everyday was a miracle to them. Without that it was impossible to maintain their own lives during that time. It's truly outstanding for the fact that they received manna from above and they received quail and they were able to eat that. It wasn't only once a year but it was every single day. To be honest there was not a single person that died because of thirst. Of course, it was not only people that lived there, there was livestock as well. To that extent the people should have been overjoyed but yet they would always go against God and Moses. There were times where they wept all night before God. In other words they had no choice but to face their own death. They went against God and Moses. There were times where they were bitten by the serpent and they died. There was an illness that spread to which many died. Regardless of all the many miracles that they saw they were still in this state and the wilderness was filled with disbelief, problems, and hardships. If you take a look back at your walk of faith it may be the same. There are problems and disbelief within you. Of course, at times there were miracles that may arise. That is why we compare our lives to the time in the wilderness. But in the midst of this environment that lived in God gave them a principle for them to survive. I do believe that this must be the background to your life as well. If you hold to this you will absolutely be victorious. What is that for you to hold to the covenant and enter the land of Canaan. It's simple then naturally miracles will be upon you. This is the lesson of the wilderness. Regardless of the fact that many people were opposed to entering the land of Canaan there were many miracles that God gave to them. It's truly

amazing. Of course, even if there were so many people who went against the work of God, God continuously poured down miracles to them. God permitted it because they must firmly hold to the covenant and enter the land of Canaan. Even today's praise that was sung said the faithful God. If you deeply think about it from time to time we may go against God but yet God never changes his promise. We commit many sins, we continuously commit sins repeatedly but each time we repent the Lord forgives us. Even if you intentionally commit sin if you pray and ask for forgiveness God will forgive you. This is the God that you must know. The 25th World Mission Conference theme was the seventy disciples. Holding to this Word, you are those who remained before God. May you uncover it. You have been called to this age. You are those who remained before God for the sake of the evangelism movement. When you pray holding onto this as your covenant, you will regain your strength and the doors will be opened. Simply follow the doors that God opens for you. For you to hold onto the covenant as you follow after the doors He opens for you is the life of the Pilgrim. Those who follow after Thailand will gain authority. God will open the doors for you and you will conquer it all. You will not only conquer it, but will be the one to save it. May the blessing be upon you to hold onto the covenant and enter the land of Canaan. Those who obeyed this are the 70 disciples. I bless you all in the name of the Lord that this blessing will be upon you.

1. Ananias and Sapphira

They sold the entire piece of property, but left some for themselves. They gave offerings to the Lord and at the time, many people gave their entire offering of inheritance to the Lord, to which they use it for the sake of the church. Ananias and Sapphira wanted to take part in this movement, so they sold their property. They needed to give their entire offering to the Lord, but kept some to themselves. For that reason, in less than three hours, they were killed. This is quite shocking, but this has taken place. They may have their own children, but their parents died. Who put them to death? It was not Peter, it was God, Himself. There must be a significant reason why He did this. Is it so wrong for them to keep a small portion to themselves? There is a deep meaning behind this. They kept some for themselves and gave the rest as offering for the Lord. At our level, they did such a great job. To be honest, is there anyone who could sell their property and give it as tithe before the Lord? In America or Korea, I have never seen anyone sell their property to give offerings to the Lord. They may have their own excuse to say that with the money left they want to buy more property but in the end, they wouldn't gain much from that. From my own understanding, there are those who give a tithe from their income and those that do not, and even those who do sell their property for money, but I know for sure that not many give that money for offering. I may not be right, but I do

think that they were able to give a fifth tenth of that to the Lord. With this alone it is a tremendous amount, but yet it was the Lord who called them and put them to death. The Lord punished them, not to the extent that the Lord wanted them to live well in heaven, but there was only one reason. It was a very important time of world evangelism at the time. It was a very important time schedule for the true gospel movement to arise amongst the Jews. This was the most important time schedule for God. There were many various works that arose during that time but God's sole interest was this alone. God did not care what was taking place at the time. It was Ananias and Sapphira who broke the atmosphere of this work. It was not intentional for them to break the atmosphere, but they thought to themselves that they needed to keep some for themselves. What they have done could break the atmosphere which is why God called them. We have heard many times from the messages and gossip that those who hindered the gospel movement were all called from God. A majority were pastors. Did they go to Hell? No, they ascended to Heaven. Why did God call them so quickly? There were those who took medicine, but they were called from God. This is because this is a very important movement to God. May you carefully look at me. Do you have a sense of how important this movement is? If you don't, you are simply following after everyone else. Do you truly feel within your heart that this is a very important movement to God? If you don't, you are merely in the outer boundary. Even if you mouth of Christ, you don't have Christ as your own. What is the reason why God has given you Christ? It is to save people through this movement. Yet, you don't have this sense. You just merely attend church. Due to this pandemic, many people have stopped coming to church with that excuse, saying they come at least once a month. I believe that's very wrong. The most precious time on earth is the time we have set apart to come to church in the morning. Do you believe there is anything else more precious than for you to come to church? Is there any other time more important? This has started with your lack of faith in God, and your heart has changed. And little by little, that will be the focal point of your heart. That is the day you will crumble. That is being relayed to the children. They lack interest in the Gospel, and they are spiritually dying. Especially for the parents, you must stake your life and keep the Lord's day. If you are not even trying to observe the Lord's day yet try to receive answers to prayer, you must fix this. You may not want to change, but if you do so, it will be much more beneficial for you. You must also have a strong sense of feeling for world evangelization. You must have the strong sense of feeling that I will be the one who remains before God for the sake of His movement. For Ananias and Sapphira, they never had this strong feeling for this movement. If they had, they wouldn't have done what they did. Compared to believers today, they are number one for offering to give a fifth of the tithe to the Lord. To be honest, when you pass away, you don't even give a tenth of your inheritance to the Lord. What does that say? What is your heart fix-

ated on? Your heart is fixated on money. That is a religious life. You have been deceived by Christ. You must not live that life. This movement arose because of the small minority who truly held onto this. Do you want to have this heart that the minority had, or do you want to be the majority that follows after the crowd? The world tries to destroy the Christian churches, and America is the number one country that does that. The reason why God did that to them was because of the important reason that they were hindering the movement. God will never yield anything for the sake of world evangelization. We've all read Numbers 14. It said that the people wept all night and perished. What did God choose? Did He yield taking His people to the land of Canaan? Don't misunderstand. God said He will wait for His people until they die. That is love. He could have taken everyone's lives that night. Yet, for Ananias and Sapphira, they were called up by God in less than three hours. That is truly outstanding. In Genesis 12 and 20, Abraham repeatedly sinned. He deceived the king by saying that his wife was his sister. He was scared they would kill him. But God punished the king and not Abraham. It is Abraham who should have been punished. And the king did nothing wrong. In Genesis 20, God calls this Abraham His prophet. God tells the king that if Abraham prays for him, he will live, and if he does not, he and all the people will be put to death. Yet, it was Abraham who lied to these kings. And through these incidents when he lied, he was able to gain more. Why was this the case? People might say God is so unjust and that these kings were innocent. But it was more right for God to save Abraham who was at fault and in disbelief because, by saving Abraham, he was saving many more people. It's because Abraham possessed the Gospel. Whether the ethic is right or wrong, people must be saved. That is why God allowed Abraham to survive and live. By God's grace, I do believe that we are in the stage of being used for the sake of saving Latin America and the United States. Until now, it has been done by effort. The start was laying the foundation, but now I believe it is the true beginning of the work that will arise. I do believe that Biblical evangelism and mission will take place. I do have thoughts that God will raise up 70 disciples in Latin America and America. Believers, I am not saying this as a pastor, but all of you must take part within this movement. You will be at a loss if you are hindering this stream. Ananias and Sapphira were those who hindered this stream. In God's point of view, they hindered the stream and as a result, he called them. If possible, we must be in the stream of evangelism and mission. There is no one that will block this. Without calculation, may you be within this stream. There is nothing for you to be concerned about as God knows everything. Do you truly believe that God knows all and God is alive? If you are able to acknowledge this, you are able to abide by him. Without this sense of feeling, even if you confess Christ, it is all in vain. How can you have this strong sense of feeling inside of your heart? You must first crush the serpent's head. It is Satan who hinders you from all of this. That is why

we continuously emphasize Christ. I do hope God will pour down his tremendous blessings upon our businesses and economies. Business and economy are very important, but there is something much more important. It is the 70 disciples. You must be the 70 disciples. You will be ahead of all those people if you are able to acknowledge that you are the 70 disciples including your business. I do believe that God desires to bless us.

2. Those who Remain

We have been called in this age by God. You are those who remain in this age. In God's perspective, those who acknowledge themselves as those who remain are most important. It may be one's misunderstanding and others may see that they have nothing, but if they acknowledge themselves, there is nothing more important. God will view that as very precious. May you all be like that. There is no one better than the others, everyone's the same, May you confess before the Lord that you are the one that has remained for the gospel movement. There is one thing needed for those who remained. That is the covenant. Spiritually and fundamentally what you need the most is Jesus Christ. You must enter the land of Canaan, so you must hold onto this as your covenant. God has given you the specific covenant to save America, Latin America, the remnants, and the people of all nations. May that be your covenant and it will be answered. It doesn't matter if someone nitpicks on what you do. May you quietly stand before the Lord and hold onto the covenant. With that alone, everything is finished. When that becomes your covenant, it will become your prayer. That is when you will be strengthened and be thankful and joyful towards God. Holding onto this covenant, may we all be those who remain. You must confess of Jesus Christ who crushed Satan's head, Satan who deceives you from holding onto this as your covenant. When you continuously hold onto Christ and confess Christ, world evangelism will hit your heart. Once it becomes your personal covenant, it will be very different compared to the past. You will live your life heading towards the covenant, and that is the life of the pilgrim. This is the most important task on Earth, that is why God will pour his strength upon you. You will become a conqueror. You will conquer your life and the problems you face. You will conquer the work of Satan and save many people. Under the four prayer topics of the church, we also held onto the covenant of the church officers, the 70 disciples, and the remnant movement. I believe that once all our church officers are raised as the 70 disciples, God will naturally open the doors of regional churches. God will allow that person to be used for the sake of the remnant movement. The start to all of that is for you to be in the personal prayer of enjoying Jesus Christ. In the beginning, you may set the time to pray, but as time passes by, it will truly become your prayer. For those who truly hold to that, God will give you concentrated prayer. May the grace be upon you for you to go inside of deep

prayer. For the sake of that, we will go to the ends of Latin America. Do you think this is possible? Of course it is possible. It is possible for us to go to the ends of America. We will go to the ends of the world. I believe there are many disciples that hold to this desire in America and Latin America. Our church will be the platform for many of these disciples. How can our church be used as a platform? It is because our church holds to the correct message. What the people of the world need is the message. The content of the message is the gospel. This saves the people of the world and the world, that is why we are the church that holds to the content of the message. I do hope that we will all be like this.