



Introduction



An architect's impression of the temple indicating the location of Solomon's porch where the believers met (v 12).

Ananias dies trying to deceive the apostles. The Jewish authorities cause trouble.

? Questions

1. What did Peter accuse Ananias and Sapphira of conceiving in their hearts?
2. What was the response of Peter and the apostles to the high priest ordering them to stop preaching?
3. What punishment did the apostles receive this time?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 11** Ananias and Sapphira tell a lie about how much they sold some land for. Peter accuses them of lying to God and asks why Satan has filled their heart (see theme). They both die because they think they can deceive God
- **v 12 to 16** The apostles do many miracles and more people become believers
- **v 17 to 20** The apostles are arrested and imprisoned again, because of their message. An angel brings them out of prison and tells them to continue preaching
- **v 21 to 26** The religious rulers are very frustrated that they can't stop the preaching and re-arrest the apostles



- **v 27 to 32** Again Peter responds to their order to stop preaching by pointing out that they should obey God rather than men and then reminds them of some first-century Christian beliefs (see information)
- **v 33 to 42** The religious leaders want to kill the apostles, but a Pharisee named Gamaliel recommends restraint. The apostles continue teaching and preaching after further threatenings

Timeline AD 60 (see below)



Theme / Information

Satan - Bible facts

Satan simply means an adversary or one who opposes. In most Bible versions where the word Satan occurs, sometimes it is left as Satan and other times words like adversary are used. A selection of verses showing what the Bible tells us about Satan.

The first time the word occurs, it is referring to an angel of God:

Numbers 22 verse 22

The second time the word occurs, it is referring to David:

1 Samuel 29 verse 4

Satan sometimes refers to motives that are opposed to God.

Two examples are:

Judas Iscariot when he betrayed Jesus:

Luke 22 verses 3 and 4

Two early believers who lied about the price of some land they had sold:

Acts 5 verses 1 to 4

There are several other places where the word is used of people. A couple of examples are:

1 Kings 5 verse 4, 11 verse 14

We see that the word Satan is used of God himself if we compare the two records of king David numbering Israel:

1 Chronicles 21 verse 1

2 Samuel 24 verse 1

A Satan who can influence God and is given power by God is involved in Job's sufferings:

Job 2 verses 3 to 6

Satan tempts the Lord Jesus Christ:

Mark 1 verse 13

Jesus calls the apostle Peter a Satan when he tries to oppose him:

Mark 8 verses 31 to 33



When 70 followers of Jesus tell him about their recent preaching and healing campaign, Jesus says this is like Satan falling from heaven:

Luke 10 verses 17 to 20

Satan will shortly be crushed under the feet of the Roman believers:

Romans 16 verse 20

Satan stops Paul from coming to the Thessalonian believers:

1 Thessalonians 2 verse 18

The above verses give us the following information:

- Satans can be:
 - an angel of God
 - people
 - God Himself
 - motives and intents opposed to God
- A Satan influenced God and was given God's power
- A Satan tempted Jesus Christ
- Successful preaching is said by Jesus Christ to be Satan falling from heaven
- Satan was in Judas Iscariot when he betrayed Jesus
- Satan would be crushed under the feet of the Roman believers
- A Satan stopped Paul from coming to the Thessalonian believers

Conclusion

Satan refers to powers, people, motives or influences that oppose.

First-century Christian beliefs - Acts 5 (preached to the Jewish leaders)

- **v 29 to 32** The apostles say:
 - v 29** we must obey God, rather than men
 - v 30** God raised up Jesus after the Jews killed him
 - v 31** he is now at God's right hand as a Prince and Saviour to give us repentance and forgiveness of sins
 - v 32** the apostles and the Holy Spirit were witnesses to all these events

? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 4, Q 2: v 29, Q 3: v 40



Bible timeline

