

NOON BIBLE STUDY: ACTS 5

ACTS 4:32-37 — CHURCH LIFE

ACTS 4:36-37 — JOSEPH, A LEVITE, CALLED BARNABAS BY APOSTLES

- FACILITATES PAUL'S RECEPTION BY THE APOSTLES AFTER HIS CONVERSION (ACTS 9:27)
- PAUL'S COMPANION ON 1ST MISSIONARY JOURNEY (ACTS 13:2)

ACTS 5:1-11 — ANANIAS & SAPPHIRA

LEVITICUS 9:22 - 10:3 - THEN AARON LIFTED UP HIS HANDS TOWARD THE PEOPLE AND BLESSED THEM, AND HE STEPPED DOWN AFTER MAKING THE SIN OFFERING AND THE BURNT OFFERING AND THE PEACE OFFERINGS. 23 MOSES AND AARON WENT INTO THE TENT OF MEETING. WHEN THEY CAME OUT AND BLESSED THE PEOPLE, THE GLORY OF THE LORD APPEARED TO ALL THE PEOPLE. 24 THEN FIRE CAME OUT FROM BEFORE THE LORD AND CONSUMED THE BURNT OFFERING AND THE PORTIONS OF FAT ON THE ALTAR; AND WHEN ALL THE PEOPLE SAW IT, THEY SHOUTED AND FELL ON THEIR FACES. NAU LEVITICUS 10:1 NOW NADAB AND ABIHU, THE SONS OF AARON, TOOK THEIR RESPECTIVE FIREPANS, AND AFTER PUTTING FIRE IN THEM, PLACED INCENSE ON IT AND OFFERED STRANGE FIRE BEFORE THE LORD, WHICH HE HAD NOT COMMANDED THEM. 2 AND FIRE CAME OUT FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD AND CONSUMED THEM, AND THEY DIED BEFORE THE LORD. 3 THEN MOSES SAID TO AARON, "IT IS WHAT THE LORD SPOKE, SAYING, 'BY THOSE WHO COME NEAR ME I WILL BE TREATED AS HOLY, AND BEFORE ALL THE PEOPLE I WILL BE HONORED.'" SO AARON, THEREFORE, KEPT SILENT.

V. 11 — RESULT: "GREAT FEAR CAME OVER THE WHOLE CHURCH & OVER ALL WHO HEARD THESE THINGS."

ACTS 5:12-16 — THE LORD CONTINUES TO ADD TO THE CHURCH

- SIGNS & WONDERS CONTINUE
- CHURCH/APOSTLES GATHERING IN AREA OF TEMPLE

ACTS 5:17-33 — CONFLICT CONTINUES WITH RELIGIOUS LEADERS

V. 33 — "CUT TO THE QUICK" = CONVICTED, ENRAGED



ACTS 5:34-42 — GAMALIEL'S ADVICE

GAMALIEL: GRANDSON OF HILLEL (GREATEST JEWISH TEACHER). HELD SENIOR POSITION IN THE HIGHEST JEWISH RULING BODY IN JERUSALEM.

SINCE RABBAN GAMALIEL THE ELDER DIED, THERE HAS BEEN NO MORE REVERENCE FOR THE LAW, AND PURITY AND PIETY DIED OUT AT THE SAME TIME". (MISHNAH [ORAL TRADITIONS] - SOTAH 15:18)



V. 36-37 - GAMALIEL CITED TWO EXAMPLES FROM JEWISH HISTORY TO SUPPORT HIS BASIC ARGUMENT THAT MOVEMENTS NOT BACKED BY GOD ALWAYS COME TO NOTHING. BOTH EXAMPLES WERE FAILED MOVEMENTS, THE FIRST BEING THAT OF A REVOLUTIONARY NAMED **THEUDAS**, AND THE SECOND THAT OF "**JUDAS THE GALILEAN**" (V. 37), WHO IS SAID TO HAVE COME "AFTER HIM." JUDAS THE GALILEAN IS WELL KNOWN, HAVING LED A TAX REVOLT IN A.D. 6 (JOSEPHUS, JEWISH ANTIQUITIES 18.23), AND THIS IS EVIDENTLY THE PERSON TO WHOM GAMALIEL IS REFERRING. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO HISTORICAL RECORD OF THE "THEUDAS" MENTIONED HERE (OTHER THAN THIS STATEMENT BY GAMALIEL), MOST LIKELY THIS "THEUDAS" WAS ONE OF MANY OTHERWISE UNKNOWN LEADERS OF SUCH MOVEMENTS FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF HEROD THE GREAT IN 4 B.C. (ESV STUDY BIBLE NOTE ACTS 5:36)

V. 40 — DISCIPLES BEATEN AND ORDERED (AGAIN) NOT TO SPEAK IN/OF THE NAME OF JESUS.

V. 40-42 — APOSTLES REJOICED IN THEIR SUFFERING FOR CHRIST'S SAKE AND "KEPT RIGHT ON TEACHING AND PREACHING JESUS AS THE CHRIST"

ACTS 5:41-42 (NLT) - THE APOSTLES LEFT THE HIGH COUNCIL REJOICING THAT GOD HAD COUNTED THEM WORTHY TO SUFFER DISGRACE FOR THE NAME OF JESUS. 42 AND EVERY DAY, IN THE TEMPLE AND FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE, THEY CONTINUED TO TEACH AND PREACH THIS MESSAGE: "JESUS IS THE MESSIAH."

TO CONSIDER:

- WHEN WE RECEIVE RESISTANCE OR PUSHBACK TO THE GOSPEL, WHAT DO WE DO?
- DISCIPLES SHOW US HOW TO DEAL WITH OPPOSITION WITH CONFIDENCE BUT REMAINING ABOVE REPROACH.