

heard about it was terrified. Then some young men got up, wrapped him in a sheet, and took him out and buried him.” Acts 5:3-6 (NLT)

“About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter asked her, ‘Was this the price you and your husband received for your land?’ ‘Yes,’ she replied, ‘that was the price.’ And Peter said, ‘How could the two of you even think of conspiring to test the Spirit of the Lord like this? The young men who buried your husband are just outside the door, and they will carry you out, too.’ Instantly, she fell to the floor and died. When the young men came in and saw that she was dead, they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. Great fear gripped the entire church and everyone else who heard what had happened.” Acts 5:7-11 (NLT)

A. What Was Not Bad

1. Owning The Property

2. Selling The Property

3. Keeping Some Of The Money For Themselves

B. What Was Bad

1. They Lied

“There are six things the Lord hates - no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.”

Proverbs 6:16-19 (NLT)

2. What They Lied About

“Everything they do is for show.... Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy - full of greed and self-indulgence.” Matthew 23:5,25 (NLT)

“Hypocrites! ...you pretend to be holy, with all your long, public prayers in the streets, while you are evicting widows from their homes. Hypocrites! ...You are like beautiful mausoleums - full of dead men’s bones, and of foulness and corruption. You try to look like saintly men, but underneath those pious robes of yours are hearts

besmirched with every sort of hypocrisy and sin.”

Matthew 23:14, 27-28 (TLB)

3. Why They Lied

4. Who They Lied To

“You lied to the Holy Spirit.... You weren’t lying to us but to God!”

Acts 5:3-4 (NLT)

“How could the two of you even think of conspiring to test the Spirit of the Lord like this?” Acts 5:9 (NLT)

5 Who They Were Stealing From

“‘Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,’ says the LORD Almighty. But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’ ‘Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’ In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse - your whole nation - because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,’ says the LORD Almighty, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.’” Malachi 3:7-10 (NIV)

III. THE LESSONS

A. Don’t Lie

B. Don’t Lie To The Church

C. Don’t Lie To God

D. Take Sin Seriously

E. Don’t Steal From God

F. Confess Your Sin While You Can

“Count yourself lucky, how happy you must be - you get a fresh start, your slate’s wiped clean. Count yourself lucky - God holds nothing against you and you’re holding nothing back from him. When I kept it all inside, my bones turned to powder, my words became daylong groans. The pressure never let up; all the juices of my life dried up. Then I let it all out; I said, ‘I’ll make a clean breast of my failures to God.’ Suddenly the pressure was gone - my guilt dissolved, my sin disappeared.”
Psalm 32:1-5 (Msg)

SAPPHIRA
INFAMOUS WOMAN OF THE BIBLE - Part 2
August 9, 2026
Jerry Clonch

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

I. BARNABAS

“All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God’s great blessing was upon them all. There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means ‘Son of Encouragement’).... He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles.” Acts 4:32-37 (NLT)

II. ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA

“But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife’s consent, he kept the rest.” Acts 5:1-2 (NLT)

“Then Peter said, ‘Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself. The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away. How could you do a thing like this? You weren’t lying to us but to God!’ As soon as Ananias heard these words, he fell to the floor and died. Everyone who