



February 26 - March 4, 2017

Text: Acts 5:1-16

Theme: ACTS-ION:

**The Dynamic Life of Christ's Church –
Then and Now**

SUMMARY OF “SERMON”: Ananias and Sapphira are struck dead by God because of their deceit and hypocrisy. The sudden discipline brought great fear on the Church as the holiness of God was evident and the Church was given a lesson to remember that sin is not to be taken lightly. Yet, the Church did not shrink back but trusting the Lord Jesus and empowered by the Spirit they pressed on and continued to grow and to be fruitful.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK [The Bible readings this week help illuminate aspects of fear of God, His holiness, and the blessings of rightly fearing the Lord.]

*Monday, Feb. 27 – **Joshua 7*** [As with Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5, this judgment upon Achan and his family for their sin of greed seems overly harsh. But in both cases God is doing a new thing and He does not want His people to take Him for granted and lapse into sin.]

*Tuesday, Feb. 28 – **Matthew 10:26-33*** [Jesus' warning seems strange – not to fear those who can kill us but rather fear the one who has power to destroy our soul – i.e. God. Yet, this same God loves us dearly and knows us intimately. So fear Him but trust Him and His grace in Christ.]

*Wednesday, Mar. 1 – **Numbers 16*** [Here is another case of the severe judgment of God upon Israel. Yet it was needed because the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram was threatening Israel's existence. They would not be following God as Moses did.]

*Thursday, Mar. 2 – **Revelation 19:1-10*** [In this glorious picture of heaven it is significant that those who are prepared for the wedding supper of the Lamb are described, among other ways, as those “who fear him (God)” {v.5}.]

*Friday, Mar. 3 – **Ezekiel 11:1-15*** [As Ezekiel pronounced God's judgment over Israel these leaders obviously did not fear God, or His word to them (e.g. v.12). As Ezekiel was prophesying one of the leaders (v.13) fell dead under God's judgment.]

*Saturday, Mar. 4 – **Acts 10:1-23*** [Here we see the blessings of fearing God. Cornelius was a Gentile. But instead of being a pagan worshipper he sought the true God of Israel and feared Him. This opened up his heart to the gospel of Jesus Christ and the door was opened to bring the gospel to the Gentiles.]



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