

## **Bible Course**

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## Lesson 2

| Read Chapter 5 |
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As Acts continues to show the growth of the church, in chapter 5 we see opposition from within and without the church.

|    | Old old   |
|----|---|
|    | 1. What was the sin of Ananias and Sapphira?  |
|    |   |
| 2. | Why was this sin punished so severely?  |
| 3. | What was the effect of this event on the people?  |
| 4. | What is meant by a "hypocrite," and in what ways could we be hypocritical?                  |
|    |   |
| 5. | In this history, how are God's justice and His mercy seen?                                  |
|    |   |
| 6. | Give a practical example from life which shows that we, too, must obey God rather than men? |
|    |   |
| 7. | Who was Gamaliel and what was his advice to the Sanhedrin?                                  |
|    |   |

Chapters 6 and 7 still focus on the growing church in Jerusalem. Chapter 6 begins with a bit of the church organization (ecclesiology) in setting up the office of a deacon. This is followed by

the story of Stephen, one of the chosen deacons and his death as the first martyr of the early church.

| Read Chapter 6           |  | -fold work of a deacon' |                |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------|
| 9. What sort of person i | must a deacon be, accord                 | ing to I Timothy 3?     |                |
| 10. Why were deacons se  | elected in Acts 6?                       |                         |                |
|                          | were first chosen?                       |                         |                |
| Read Chapter 7           | 12first Christian the NT. Wha            | martyr recorded in      |                |
| 13. Was Christ a martyr? | ? Explain                                |                         |                |
| <u> </u>                 | 37, Stephen said that, by ally rejecting |                         | Leaid that the |
|                          | up a                                     |                         |                |
|                          | ghts regarding the stoning               | -                       |                |
| 59, and 60               |  |                         |                |
| 16. Compare verse 60 w   | ith John 11:11                           |                         |                |
|                          |  |                         |                |

The martyrdom of Stephen and persecution of Christians was used by God to spread the gospel beyond the Jews and Jerusalem. In chapters 8-12, Luke shows how the

## Read Chapter 8

persecution helped spread the gospel to the Samaritans, an Ethiopian proselyte, a Pharisee, Gentiles in Caesarea, and Jews and Gentiles in Antioch.

| unto his [Stephen's]   |  |  |
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|  | into the meets a into the into | relate Isaiah 55:1  2:19 and the road he meets a chapter  Arotta  Arot |

| 25. What question did Philip ask in verse 30?    |      |
|--|------|
| 26. Philip left, but the eunuch "went on his way | .,,, |
| Evaluator:                                       |      |

**Meditation:** Acts 5:31 – "Him (Jesus) hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins."

Say not, What reason have I to repent? I am no murderer or robber; for thou art both. By thy sins thou hast murdered the Son of God, and by thy pride robbed God of His due service; therefore, if thy old heart be not changed into a new one, and yet thou feelest some uneasiness about thy salvation, do not look on this concern as a fit of the vapours, or as a temptation of the devil, but believe it is the work of Christ, Who now awakes thee from the sleep of sin, and offers thee repentance; and Who will change thy heart, and make thee a new man, if thou canst yield up thyself unto Him. He stands at the door, and knocks, and says, "If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him." Revelation 3:20

Now Christ will every want supply,

And fill our hearts with peace;

He gives, by covenant and by oath,

The riches of His grace.

And deep engrave His law,

And every motion of our souls

To swift obedience draw.

Our heart, that flinty, stubborn thing,

That terrors cannot move,

That fears no threatenings of His wrath,

Shall be dissolved by love.

Thus will He pour salvation down,

And we shall render praise;

He'll bless the people of His love,

And we'll adore His grace.

Taken from: "A Golden Treasure for the Children of God" by C.H.V. Bogatzky