

# HOLDING BACK WHAT BELONGS TO GOD

Acts 5:1-11

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. Ananias and Sapphira held back on the Lord and it cost them their life
- B. We can hold back in that which rightfully belongs to the Lord and it will cost us our spiritual life
- C. We must be constantly examining ourselves to determine if we are guilty of keeping back part of that which we should be giving to the Lord
- D. **(TITLE)** Let's talk about a few areas in which we are sometime guilty of holding back from the Lord

## DISCUSSION:

### I. HOLD BACK PART OF OUR LOVE FOR GOD

- A. God requires all our heart, soul and mind Matt 22:37
- B. Note how much God loved us Jhn 3:16; Rom 5:8
- C. Anything less is holding back a part of our love for God

### II. HOLD BACK A PART OF OUR OBEDIENCE

- A. God has always required complete obedience Matt 7:21
  1. Moses Num 20:11,12
  2. Lot's wife Gen 19:17,26
- B. Salvation to all who obey Heb 5:8,9
- C. Vengeance on them that obey not 2Thess 1:8

### III. HOLD BACK A PART OF OUR TIME

- A. We must work while it is day Jhn 9:4
- B. Reap what we sow Gal 6:7
- C. Use time to become teachers Heb 5:12
- D. Life is short, time is valuable Jas 4:14; 1Pet 1:24

### IV. HOLD BACK PART OF OUR ABILITY

- A. We must use what ability we have in making use of the opportunities we have Matt 25:24-28
  1. Opportunity given according to abilities
  2. Don't sell ourselves short, God knows our abilities
- B. If not using, as opportunities present themselves, the ability we have for God then we are using them against him Matt 12:30

### V. HOLD BACK A PART OF OUR RESOURCES

- A. Our attitude toward what we have Lk 12:13-21
  1. Must be willing to share 1Tim 6:17,18
  2. Attitude of the early church Acts 4:32
- B. Will a man rob God Mal 3:8-10
- C. Ananias & Sapphira Acts 5:1-5
- D. Our righteousness must exceed that of Scribes and Pharisees Matt 5:20-22
- E. Are we as liberal in our giving on the Lord's day as we should be 1Cor 16:1,2; 2Cor 9:6-8
  1. When - 1st day of the week

2. Who - everyone of you
3. What - lay by in store (common treasury)
4. Why - be no gathering when I come
5. How Much - As God has prospered (proportionate to our income) would governor accept? Mal 1:8
6. What manner - as purposed in our heart (determine before hand) willingly, cheerfully

### VI. WHY DO WE HOLD BACK IN OUR SERVICE TO GOD

- A. Selfishness Phil 2:20,21
- B. Fear Matt 25:25-30
- C. Unbelief - simply do not believe God will do what he said he would do Matt 6:33 (Note Heb 11:6; Jhn 20:27)
- D. Ignorance, this is not acceptable Acts 17:30; (Paul was acting in ignorance but was lost 1Tim 1:13)
- E. Love for other things
  1. Love father or mother (family) more Matt 10:37
  2. Love for the world 2Tim 4:10; 1Jhn 2:15,16

## CONCLUSION:

- A. We must not hold back a thing that rightfully belongs to the Lord. We must give all of our love, obedience, time, talents and our resources to him because he requires total commitment Rom 12:1,2
- B. We must be willing to sacrifice whatever is necessary for Christ and His will Matt 10:32-39
- C. When we fail to attend services, sacrifice the fruit of our lips, give with purpose of heart or in any other way hold back in our service we are guilty of all Jas 2:10
- D. If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear 1Pet 4:18