

**HOLY FIRE vs  
STRANGE FIRE**



Acts 4:32 ff “And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul:....but they had all things common.” [paraphrased] ...for as many as were possessors of lands sold them,.....and laid their profits down at the feet of the apostles...who would distribute as to other’s needs.”

# Sacred Fire Revealed in Tongues

- Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with **one accord** in one place 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of **fire**, and it sat upon each of them. 2:4 And they were all filled with **the Holy Ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues, as **the Spirit** gave them utterance.

# Sacred Fire Empowers Workers

- {ST, June 9, 1890 par. 5} That the disciples of Christ might be prepared for the great work which they were to do, Jesus had instructed them to tarry in Jerusalem until they should be **endowed with power from on high**. On the day of Pentecost, as they were assembled together, and with one accord were seeking for the fulfillment of his promise, **the Spirit of God** descended, and the hearts of those who believed were filled with **the Holy Ghost**. The most signal evidence of **the power of God** was manifested, and thousands were converted in a day.

# Sacred Fire Empowers Workers

- Our Saviour has provided that those who go forth to fulfill his commission of preaching the gospel to the world, shall not go without the divine unction. He has said, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost has come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." If men would come to God and make an entire surrender to him in full assurance of faith, they would have grace to do the great work committed to them. {ST, June 9, 1890 par. 5}

# Sacred Fire Built God's Temple

- “One after another the foremost of the builders fell by the hand of the enemy. Stephen was stoned; James was slain by the sword; Paul was beheaded; Peter was crucified; John was exiled. Yet the church grew. New workers took the place of those who fell, and stone after stone was added to the building. Thus slowly ascended the temple of the church of God. {AA 597.2}

# Sacred Fire Built God's Temple

- “Centuries of fierce persecution followed the establishment of the Christian church, but there were never wanting men who counted the work of building God's temple dearer than life itself. Of such it is written: "Others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth." Hebrews 11:36-38. {AA 597.3}

# Sacred Fire Built God's Temple

- “The enemy of righteousness left nothing undone in his effort to stop the work committed to the Lord's builders. But God "left not Himself without witness." Acts 14:17. Workers were raised up who ably defended the faith once delivered to the saints. History bears record to the fortitude and heroism of these men. Like the apostles, many of them fell at their post, but the building of the temple went steadily forward. The workmen were slain, but the work advanced.

# Sacred Fire Built God's Temple

- “The Waldenses, John Wycliffe, Huss and Jerome, Martin Luther and Zwingli, Cranmer, Latimer, and Knox, the Huguenots, John and Charles Wesley, and a host of others brought to the foundation material that will endure throughout eternity. And in later years those who have so nobly endeavored to promote the circulation of God's word, and those who by their service in heathen lands have prepared the way for the proclamation of the last great message--these also have helped to rear the structure. {AA 598.1}

# Sacred Fire Emboldens

- Luther - “Expect anything from me but flight or recantation. Fly I cannot; still less can I recant.” {GC88 146.1}
- Huss - “When required to choose whether he would recant his doctrines or suffer death, he accepted the martyr's fate.” {GC88 107.2}

# Sacred Fire Cleanses the Church

- **Isa. 33:14** The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? **33:15** He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil;

# Sacred Fire and Opposition

- **Opposition is the lot of all whom God employs to present truths specially applicable to their time. There was a present truth in the days of Luther,--a truth at that time of special importance; there is a present truth for the church today. He who does all things according to the counsel of His will has been pleased to place men under various circumstances and to enjoin upon them duties peculiar to the times in which they live and the conditions under which they are placed. ... {GC 143.3}**

# Sacred Fire Restores

- “No restoration can be complete unless it reaches to the very depth of the soul by the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Under the Holy Spirit's influence, Peter stood before a congregation of thousands, and in holy boldness charged the wicked priests and rulers with the very sin of which he himself had been guilty. {YI, December 22, 1898 par. 2}



# Healing the Lame Beggar



# Peter's Second Sermon



**In the Portico of  
Solomon Peter taught  
them to follow Jesus'  
example**

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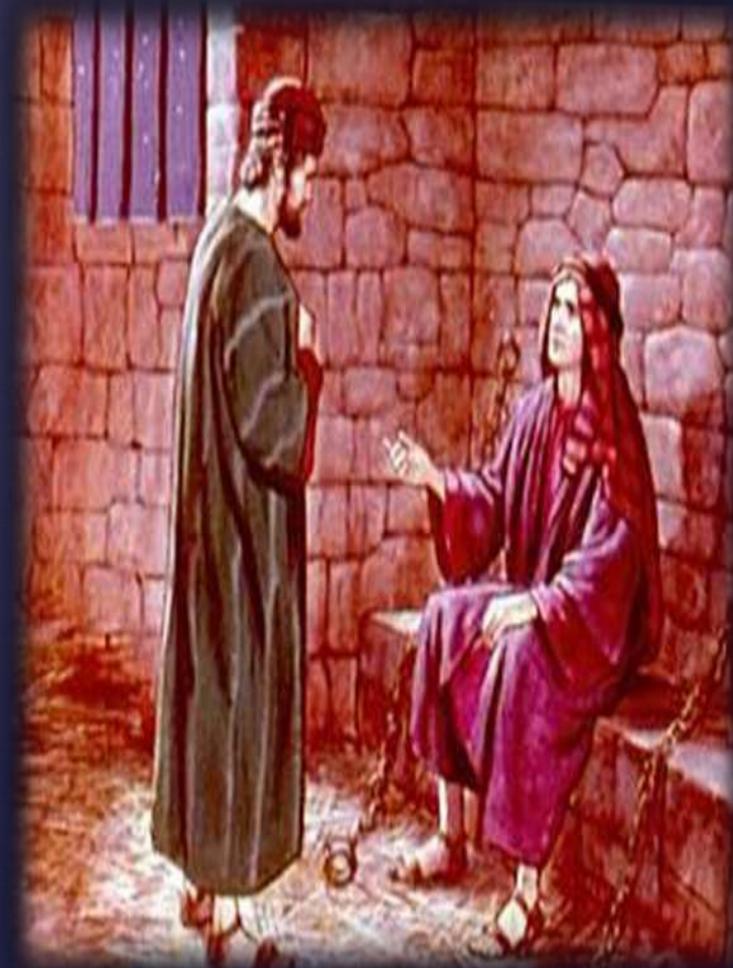
3:17 "I wot that through ignorance ye did it," said Peter; but this ignorance did not excuse the action; for they had had great light granted unto them. The statement is made that had they known that He was the Prince of life, they would not have crucified Him. But why did they not know?--because they chose not to know. They had no interest to search and study, and their ignorance proved their eternal ruin. They had had the strongest evidence on which to base their faith, and they were under obligation to God to accept the evidence He had given them. Their unbelief made them guilty of the blood of the only begotten Son of the infinite God (MS 9, 1898).

Peter and John continue to preach the resurrection in the temple.



The temple guards and the Sadducees laid hands on them and put them in jail.

Peter and John.....jailed.



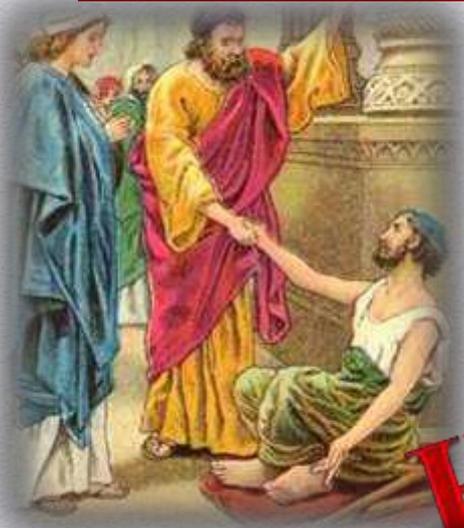
Acts 4:20 “...for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard.”



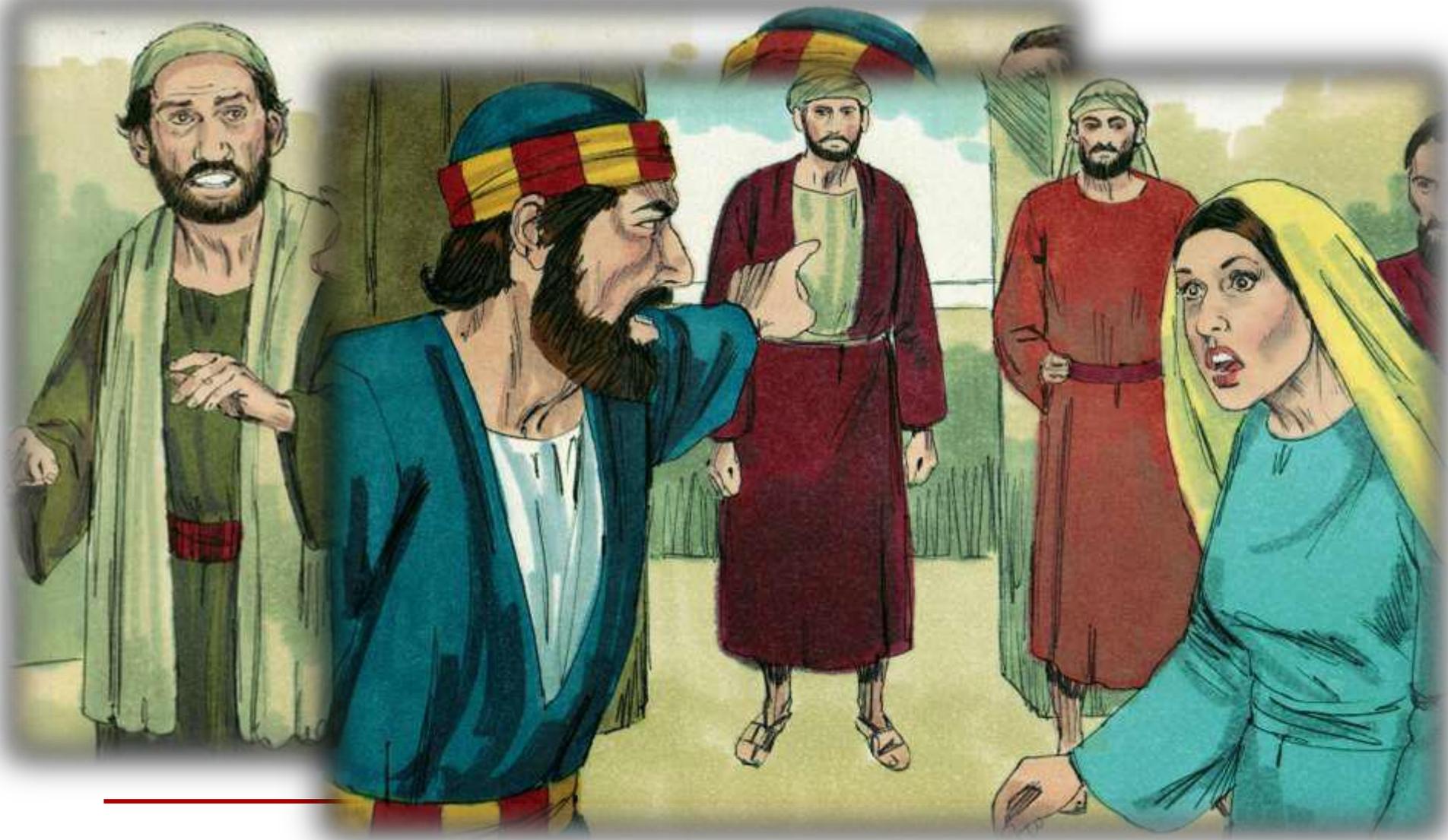
Acts 4:21a, “So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them...”KJV

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# HEALINGS

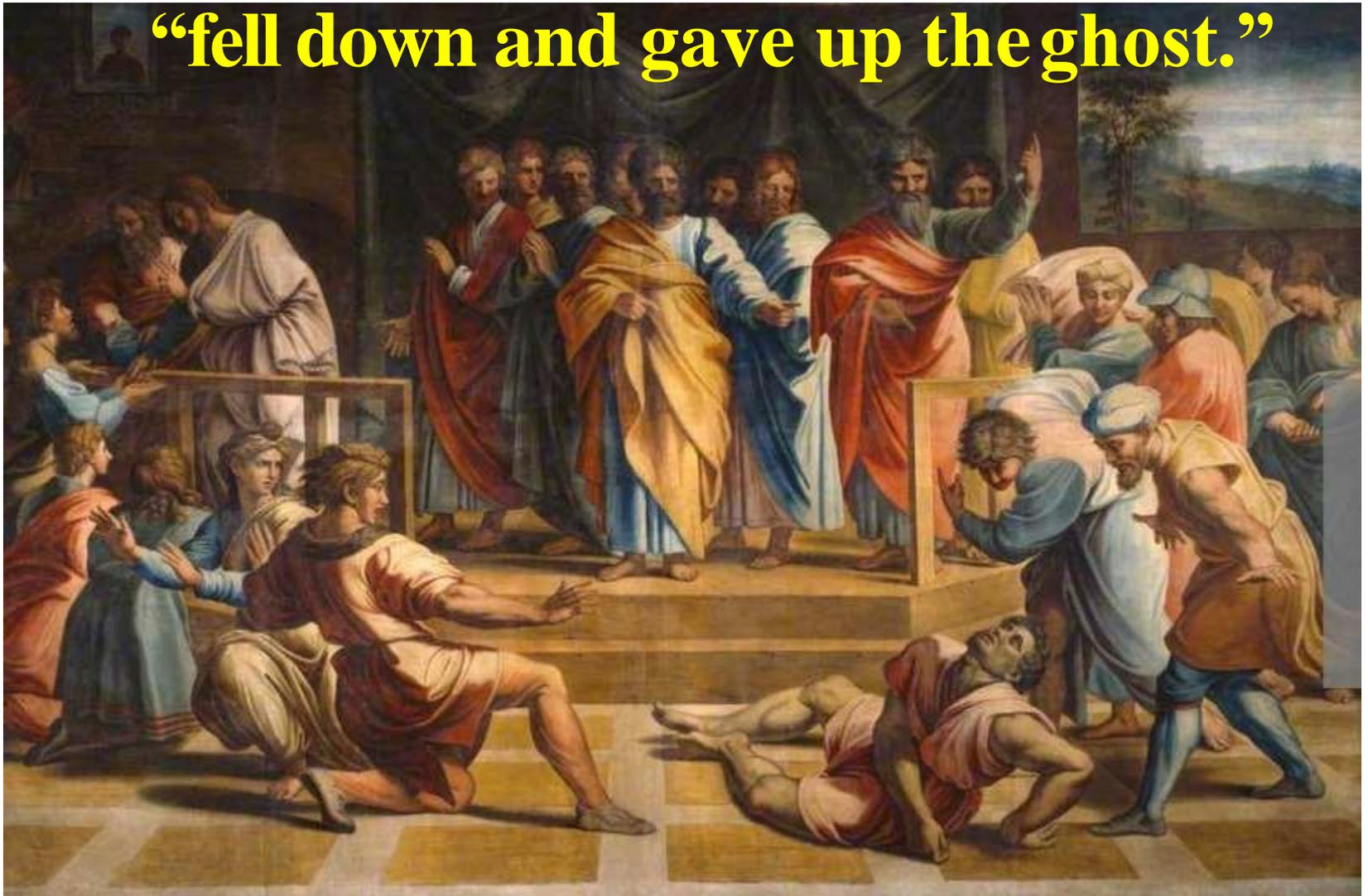


# But not Ananias and Sapphira



Acts 5:1: But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, 2: And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

**“fell down and gave up the ghost.”**



5:1-11. Sacredness of Vows and Pledges.--The people need to be impressed with the sacredness of their vows and pledges to the cause of God. Such pledges are not generally held to be as obligatory as a promissory note from man to man. But is a promise less sacred and binding because it is made to God? Because it lacks some technical terms, and cannot be enforced by law, will the Christian disregard the obligation to which he has given his word? No legal note or bond is more obligatory than a pledge made to the cause of God (RH May 23, 1893)

## Strange Fire Introduced

- **Lev 10:1** And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not.
  - Sacred Fire represents God's word given by the Holy Spirit to advance God's work.
  - Strange fire then is the introduction of man's word in place of God's and another spirit in place of the Holy Spirit to carry forward the work of God on earth.

## Common Fire In The Church

- {ChL 31.1} - “The holy principles that God has given are represented by the sacred fire; but common fire has been used in place of the sacred. Plans, contrary to truth and righteousness, are introduced in a subtle manner on the plea that this must be done, and that must be done, because it is for the advancement of the cause of God.”

# Satan's Greatest Fear

- Satan can no more hinder a shower of blessing from descending upon God's people than he can close the windows of heaven that rain cannot come upon the earth. Wicked men and devils cannot hinder the work of God, or shut out His presence from the assemblies of His people, if they will, with subdued, contrite hearts, confess and put away their sins, and in faith claim His promises.—(Selected Messages, bk. 1, 124.)  
{Pr 120.2}

# Multitudes were added to the Lord

Acts  
5:16b  
“..and  
they  
were  
healed  
every  
one.”

