

Chapter 9

Ananias and Sapphira

Question: What kind of anointing is possible for praying Americans, and are spiritual laws nullified by the New Covenant?

I believe this couple who tragically died in the Book of Acts (Acts 5:1-11) is a very clear example of spiritual laws and how they govern on the earth. ***“The Lord has established His throne in Heaven and His Kingdom rules over all.”*** Psalm 103:19 God’s Kingdom is full of spiritual laws. These are Heaven’s laws and are not subject to God’s New Covenant with man. Even if found in the Old Covenant, spiritual laws have no ending date the way the Law of Moses had. These laws coming to pass for or against people are not directly in need of the approval of God. They are His unbreakable words, even by Him. God is love.

Although the Bible says that all mankind will one day stand before God in judgement, it is not the way most people think. Jesus says that His Word will judge; not He Himself, but His Word will judge. This is also a spiritual law from Heaven. The law is called the following: ***“for the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.”*** Romans 8:2 This means that the Law of Moses is the law of sin and death, but this other law which is based on the Cross of Christ lifts us out and above and makes us free from the law of sin and death. Those who receive Christ are subject to and benefitted by the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus. The angels at the Judgement will then separate the saved from the lost, who are trapped in the law of sin and death.

“He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.” John 12:48-50

God does not operate an order desk where all prayers and happenings on earth are stamped and approved by Him. In His efficiency, His spiritual laws come to pass daily, hourly, minute by minute on earth in the form of sowing and reaping. This helps us understand how simply adding a monetary offering to a prayer request can trigger the spiritual law functioning for an answered prayer. Of course, faith must be present. This understanding will help you make better decisions today and just what you are sowing into yourself and to other people.

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.” Galatians 6:7

Ananias and Sapphira reaped big time. They lied to the Holy Spirit and Peter caught them. Their lie was about money. (Acts 5:3) They held back some money and then pretended that they did not hold back and had given it all. This high miracle time in the newly forming Book of Acts Church based on miracles was not the best time to defy spiritual law and pull a stunt against Peter and God within Peter. Peter asked Ananias, ***“Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God. Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things.”*** Acts 5:4b-5

Ananias was made an example to the early Church. Could this situation ever be repeated again? Maybe. Now see what happened to his wife. Sapphira had not heard yet what happened to her husband. She came in to Peter, and Peter asked her about the same issue, the money. She gave the same answer as her husband. They had both conspired to lie. ***“Then Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out. And immediately she fell down at His feet and breathed her last”*** Acts 5:9-10a

These two people both died and were buried. No one considered lying to Peter after that, I am sure of it. There are men and women of God alive now with such anointings, like Peter, that they could utilize a gift of the Holy Spirit just like Peter did and bring swift action to a sinful person. But they won't and that is because, at the risk of sounding like a Spiderman movie, with great power

comes great responsibility. God has safeguards, and believe me, the people that could do this are so full of God's love that they wouldn't do it unless they clearly heard from God to do it. So as you read things like this, do not envision doing it, but rather envision getting the person saved and redeeming them to God. That is God's heart, and He knows if you have His heart or not.

It said that each of them, Ananias and Sapphira, breathed their last after falling where they stood. Note here that this was an instant merciful death, and I believe they are both in heaven, for salvation is a state of being and not a state of doing. Your blood bought salvation and New Birth is not only as powerful as your last action on earth, but rather is as strong as the blood of Jesus Christ and the wonderful grace of Almighty God. So, if you are tortured by a loved one's suicide who knew Christ, and was born again, just let all that go, for God has them.

Why share this story when discussing lies and injustice, the title of this book? First of all, Peter acted by the Spirit, and not as a mere man. I believe that there was a spiritual law here in action and working behind the scenes. There was a massively strong anointing present; more than usual for the establishment of the Church. It was a Kyros moment of time in history and was very critical to God's plan. This instance reminds me of the man in David's time that steadied the oxcart holding the Ark of the Covenant and was struck dead by the sheer anointing of God in it and on it. It turns out that this man was a victim of David's error of not following properly God's instructions for moving the Ark. The man had had the best of intentions to stop the ark from falling. But there was a similar spiritual law at work in that instance too.

The reason for sharing this chapter is to show what kind of power is available to praying believers, intercessors, and 5-fold ministers of God. It also shows the power in the Church of Jesus for signs and wonders, even if they are not always what we wanted to see happen. The level of corruption has gone so high, and the demonic control of people is so strong, that I believe a severe side of God will be felt before this Nation is fully delivered. But there can be no violence done by Christ's followers or the readers of this book, it must be through prayer and the spoken utterance of God's chosen vessels. I am telling no one to pick up arms and stage an uprising. I am saying the spiritual laws

will come to pass and manifest in the spiritual confrontation of light and darkness and God will be God and things will happen. Note the many warnings in Chapter 7 where I showed repeatedly that many wicked practices are an abomination to God. Do you think that those abominations can be allowed to go on when God has set in motion a mighty anointing on His Church which is being led by the Holy Spirit like Peter was; and the abominable wicked have been set apart by spiritual law for judgement? Just remember, God is love and He lives inside of you.

A few decades ago, I was listening to a cassette tape by Roberts Liardon about God's Generals. I want to give credit to my source, but I am telling this from my recollection of it. Maria Woodworth-Etter was a healing evangelist that moved in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit of God. She lived from 1844 to 1924. One day while she was preaching to a large crowd of people, a man stood up from the audience and begin to refute her words and speak ungodly things. Suddenly, the man began to choke and gasp and was under some kind of invisible attack. He appeared to be dying as he lay on the floor. Maria came to where he was and laid hands on him and prayed, and he was delivered on the spot. (If I got anything wrong in this story, I apologize.) When God is moving among people, that is not the time to attack His servants, either physically or verbally. Maria exhibited the mercy of God to the people. She was full of God's love. Are you full of His love, my reader, and would you do the same in this instance as Maria did? This sign from God was a miracle of judgement through the working of miracles, which is a gift of the Holy Spirit.

In Acts 13:6-12, a sorcerer named Elymas tried to block the preaching and ministering of Paul and Barnabas to a dignitary, the proconsul Sergius Paulus, who wanted to hear Paul's words. Talk about a Kyros moment and a gross violation of spiritual law and a move of Satan against the spread of the gospel and an attack on the very message of Christ. This was not a normal attack Paul was used to. This evil sorcerer was trying to stop a man of influence from hearing Paul's words who could prosper Paul in the cause of Christ. Plus, Paul was an anointed man of signs and wonders. Again, there are many such men and women alive today in our Nation who are anointed with signs and wonders following them. But isn't this what the government did when they

shut down churches and Bible and prayer meetings? Spiritual laws were violated.

What exactly did Paul do next when this sorcerer tried to buffet his work for Christ? Paul spoke faith-filled words to him:

"Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time. And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand." Acts 13:9-

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This man temporarily lost his vision and ability to walk around by himself. Note that Paul was merciful and did not strike him dead or permanently blind him. Paul even carefully used the phrase, "for a time." We are talking about the power of God's love, and the man God trusted to write the love chapter in the Bible of 1st Corinthians 13. What would you do here? If you would do anything more here than Paul did, God will not even trust you with the power that Paul walked in. Can a modern believer do something like this? Yes, it has happened many times throughout the world when God's chosen ministers have served God by preaching the gospel. But having this power is not the prize. Saving the lost is the prize and is close to God's heart. I am thinking that probably, Elymas, the sorcerer, converted to Christ once he got his sight back. Think of what this miracle of God through Paul did for the region, and how much God would be glorified if it led to such positive fruit for God.

As a result of this miracle of judgement from God, the proconsul of the nation converted. ***"Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord."*** Acts 13:12 Imagine if miracles poured out upon America, and some were miracles of judgement. Imagine the wicked being astonished at the gospel. They would rethink everything. So, you may ask: "Greg, why put these things in this book? Aren't you worried that many believers would abuse them? Believe me, I thought about this before writing this chapter. God was not worried about putting

these incidents in the Bible for believers to read. These believers you question have Bibles and God's truth is God's truth. I believe if these things are attempted from impure motives in the user, they will not succeed. God has built in safeguards for such things, and it is based on spiritual law. Miracles of judgement like we read here with Maria Woodworth-Etter, and the Apostle Paul are classified by Bible teachers as the working of miracles, a gift of the Holy Spirit. That is a big factor to keep in mind, if a working of miracles gift manifests and it is one of judgement, then that is the will of God in action, since He gives His supernatural gifts to each one individually as He wills. (1 Corinthians 12:11)

Let's look at our country, the USA! Do you see any leaders, politicians, entertainers, media people, that Paul's words would apply to? Paul: ***"O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?"*** (Acts 13:10) The sorcerer was in violation of spiritual laws, and several of them. God's judgement was running against him long before he met Paul. The wicked in our Nation are on very shaky ground in their very lives, to say the least. This example here with Paul has been inserted into the Bible by God for admonition to all believers who will hear, and truly listen, and especially for American believers right now who wish to deal with the evil and corruption in our land.

Instead of physical rebellion or violence, we believers in Christ must meet opposition head on God's way, with His anointing and power and let Him deal with them in His way which will have His mercy in it. If we choose this way, the wicked will likely repent of their sinfulness and come to Christ. This is a time in America for intercession by the Body of Christ, from our homes and churches individually and collectively. As we pray in the Spirit and make our bold declarations, God is moving by His Spirit and as we declare solutions and deliverance to Donald Trump and others caught in unjust situations, then those working against our prayers are themselves caught "kicking against the goads," so to speak, or driving chariots without their wheels on, in another analogy, and they are nearing a precipice with God, and some will change their stances or their own directions in repentance.

Right now, many deceived and unjust judges are sitting on their bench in opposition to millions of praying American believers and they are in the same predicament as Elymas before Paul. There is no distance in the Holy Spirit.

“Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees,” Isaiah 10:1 NKJV

“What sorrow awaits the unjust judge and those who issue unfair laws.”

Isaiah 10:1 NLT

“Woe (judgment is coming) to those [judges] who issue evil statutes, and to those [magistrates] who constantly record unjust and oppressive decisions,” Isaiah 10:1 Amplified Bible

How would you like God to say woe is you? It's not a good place to be in. The NLT asks what sorrow awaits them? The Amplified says, what judgement is coming? Sadly, these human pawns of Satan may receive judgement as persons, but their wickedness themselves is based on the deception of demons. (We don't wrestle against flesh and blood..." Ephesians 6) These judges and prosecutors and other wicked people in America have the potential to repent and see their wickedness and change and turn around to follow God. God knows this and would have us pray mercifully for them. If God sees fit to punish them, or let the spiritual law access them, that is up to Him.

“Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” (Romans 12:19b)

Vengeance should never be in or near a New Covenant believer who is in Christ.

A Testimony

I, as the author, have a testimony that may fit here. I have been a long-term real estate broker and years ago I was doing some, but not many of the 80/20 mortgage loans as a mortgage broker. I was referred to a couple from a relative who could not obtain a loan because of their documentation issues. They were candidates for an 80/20 combo loan because they were willing to pay extra fees and rates to do so. The loan was not easy, but we got it through, and I became friends with this couple. They were very happy with how I helped them. Then, the market collapsed and the home prices started to plummet around 2008. I left the industry for a while and did some social work in my town just to survive. I ended up in this social work working with addicted

people (drugs and alcohol) and I learned so much about the heart of God. I stayed doing that work for 7 years.

In 2010, I got served with a lawsuit by this couple. The summons and complaint form was total fiction, and nothing but lies. Like many people did, they sued the mortgage broker, me, because they did not have the wisdom to pass on that loan, and, because the prices were going down fast. The husband also had quit his job and he went into real estate and that job that he quit had got him qualified in 2007. Ouch. It was not a good time to go into real estate. They lost the house due to foreclosure, and then sued, not taking responsibility for anything. They said to the lawyer who wrote it on the complaint that I didn't know them and knocked on their door at their home to solicit them and told them at that time that they would get a 5% mortgage loan. That wasn't true, as they were referred to me by a relative who told them that I could help them although they had been turned down already for all the 5% loans. Plus, I never knocked on cold doors to get clients, I was mostly always working referrals, which their referral was. I admit that they didn't get a good deal through me, but I had warned them, and they signed all the forms anyway and were dead set on pushing it through. It also turns out that because they were stating the income and not having to prove it, while buying the new subdivision home, they took the biggest one and had it loaded with as many features as they could get like kids in a toy store with rich parents. The rich parents in this case was the stated loan, which they planned to abuse.

In 2010, I was working in social service at low pay and had no money for my own lawyer, so I had to represent myself. Their lawyer, who was quite a shark, also put wording in the complaint about me being a predatory lender and he even cited news stories about people that were preyed on by predatory lenders. In my thinking, these two clients were predators. My wife Deborah and I were praying right after we got served the complaint and after getting over the shock of friends suing me, and telling whopper lies about me to the court, and realizing I could be liable for this suit, I checked my professional insurance. Although I was covered when I did their loan, I had cancelled the insurance in 2008 and now in 2010, I was told I had no coverage because I would have needed to buy a tail end policy to have that coverage. Things now looked darker.

In a prayer one day while we were praying together, God spoke to Deborah and said to her, "I will blow this lawsuit away like chaff." Chaff means, the leftover refuse of winnowed corn or wheat, etc. Praise God, we had a word to go on, but in the natural, it did not look good. The lawsuit dragged on for 4 years. The other lawyer waited and watched for me to make mistakes in the protocols and processes, and the deadlines, and each time I did, he went after me with the judge for sanctions which were usually about \$850. He filed motions, and we prayed, and he never won a sanction against me. Why didn't God blow this lawsuit away sooner? He was teaching me so much. I was not happy, but I was learning, and Deborah and I never let go of faith. One day in the 4th year, the couple's lawyer was standing with me before a judge and trying to get the judge to hit me with a sanction for being late on something, and the judge said to him about me, "he is here right now, so can't you just let that sanction go?" The lawyer said sheepishly, "yes your honor." Then, the lawyer said, "Your honor, I need time off this case because I have to go get a major surgery handled." So, the judge gave it to him. This lawyer must have been about 38 to 40 years old, but he was suffering from some serious ailment. Could it have been from unlawful and frivolous and untrue prosecution on his part? Spiritual law is always working. Please note that this lawyer had many cases against mortgage brokers, and I suspect most were not so just, because mine certainly was not just.

One day, a month or two later, I was walking and praying near my home. It was about 2014, and the 4th year of the suit. I had been thinking about that lawyer and his operation. I was praying for myself, and my situation and the case. I then heard God speak. "You are praying for you. Why don't you pray for them?" I was taken aback a little bit. Them! The couple and the lawyer were about to get nailed by the Kingdom of God and spiritual law for persecuting me and trying to get a huge settlement from me. My very hedge and protection from God was a blessing to me but a danger to them. This is spiritual law. God cannot stop their reaping of their sowing. Their very lives were on the line. Their souls were too. I felt a little ashamed that God had to point this out to me. That very day, I prayed for them very thoroughly, and for the first time, I felt love for them, all 3 of them. This is what it took 4 years to get through to me. Deborah immediately saw and we agreed in prayer for these people and their

well-being. I knew this in my heart for years, even before this lawsuit, and had even taught it to people, but when you are attacked, it is harder to grasp for yourself.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." Matthew 5:43-45

Not long after, God directed me to a local free law clinic where two lawyers helped me type a motion and a discovery document, and in that document, I laid out all the truth in legal form that the lawyer had never heard.

I then filed this document with the courts and sent a copy to the lawyer. When he read it, he called the couple and asked them if it was all true. I don't think they convinced him I was lying, because he advised them to drop the case because they were not going to win. You see, in many civil court cases, you cannot tell your side for a long time. Not until the discovery phase. The couple told him to drop the case, and he called me and told me it was dropped. He said, "I cannot do the paperwork to drop this because I am disbarred from practicing law right now, but I will have a lawyer friend do it right away."

I got the release through the courts and the case was over. Deborah and I were highly relieved and rejoicing in God. God blew it away like chaff and taught me some mighty lessons. I had no earthly lawyer, and I was up against a lawyer, but the Bible says that Jesus is my Advocate, which is a synonym for lawyer. I noted that the lawyer was having professional troubles and had already had health troubles. The more Christlike I became in this trial by fire, the harder the circumstances became for my enemies. But at the end, they were not my enemies, because God had taught me to love them. I continued to pray for those 3 people for a season of time after the case ended.

End of Testimony

***** Chapter 9 Comments from the Author: *****

If you have not realized it yet, in the boxes like this one, I, the author, provide a counterbalance to much of the revelation with short discussions of God's love and mercy. This is to express to believers in Christ that our number one call is to reach and touch the lost for Christ, not to become "sons of thunder" and spout out what they deserve. They deserve Heaven, not for what they have done or not done, but because of what Jesus has done for them, and you and I. ***"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."*** Matthew 5:7 Paul spoke some harsh words over in 1 Corinthians about a believer in deep sin. He said to deliver one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. (1 Corinthians 5:5) In the context, Paul was discussing the detailed process of Church discipline of which this command by God through Paul is the last resort. Get this next part. This has never been meant for the lost or yet to be saved and non-born-again people. This would be the opposite of the Great Commission where Jesus told us to go reach everyone, everywhere, not to do them any harm, but to save them and to love them. When Paul spoke words of temporary and merciful judgement of God to Elymas, it is far different because Elymas had never met God or been saved yet. With a believer, there is something to lose, and concern for their soul is why there is Church discipline. We must be clear minded that love and mercy goes to the lost, and the person involved in Divine judgement by the Church is a case-by-case basis and where the subject of the discipline stands in relationship with God makes all the difference and must be considered. No unsaved person must ever be delivered over to Satan for anything, and only the most seasoned and loving men and women of God should be making decisions like Paul made as pertaining to the last resort of Church discipline on specific individuals. Never go with your first urges to repay someone evil for evil, for that is not God's way. One must take time and pray many times, over other people, until God can make clear what the form of action may be, and most of the time, there will be a solution of Divine Love. Also, find out God's heart through His Word, particularly in Paul's Epistles. Do not follow your mind, but rather, follow your spirit man because that is where God dwells.