

Acts Part 7 If It Is Of God It Will Not Be Overthrown

Pastor John Carmichael

[Act 5:38-39 NASB95] 38 "So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; 39 but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them; or else you may even be found fighting against God."

- I call this book: Acts of the Holy Spirit in the world through the Church. ACTS for short.
- This series is exposing some incorrect mindsets on how the primitive church was so successful. It is also showing us how we can be victorious in this world.
- Here Gamaliel is speaking after the re-arrest of the apostles. The leaders are wanting to stop them. They are desperate. Yet, Gamaliel is giving them perspective.
- It is this perspective that we need to hear today.
- They were "of God" and they were not overthrown.
- When we live lives that are "of God" we will not be overthrown.

What does a church/Christian that is "of God" look like according to Acts 4:32-5:42?

There are five characteristics of a church/Christian that "of God" according to Acts 4:32-5:42.

I. A church/Christian that is "of God" will be a giver.

- a. Acts 4:32-37
- b. This kind of radical giving was not prescribed by God.
- c. Yet, believers will have a heart to God.
- d. [2Co 9:6-8 NASB95] 6 Now this [I say,] he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one [must do] just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;
- e. Make a decision to be a giver.

II. A church/Christian that is "of God" will operate in power.

- a. Acts 4:33
- b. Acts 5:12-16
- c. God is calling us to walk in His power.

III. A church/Christian that is "of God" will fear the Lord.

- a. Acts 5:1-11
- b. The issue here was not giving. It was lying to the Holy Spirit.
- c. [Mat 10:28 NASB95] 28 "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
- d. Ask God to help you walk in the fear of the Lord.

IV. A church/Christian that is "of God" will value the church.

- a. Acts 4:35, 37
- b. At the feet of the apostles signified their connection to established church leadership.
- c. Next chapter shows how to handle complaints in church. Do not miss it.
- d. Acts 5:11
- e. "Ekklesia" – an assembly, congregation, meeting of Christian community.
- f. How committed are you to the church? We are better together.

V. A church/Christian that is "of God" will understand the necessity of preaching.

- a. Acts 5:17-42
- b. Persecuted (v17-18), Angelic deliverance (v19), Preached (v20-21), Rearrested (v26), Flogged (v40), Keep preaching (v42)

Acts Part 7 If It Is Of God It Will Not Be Overthrown

Pastor John Carmichael

- c. We must obey God! Acts 5:29!
 - d. The preached Christ's Death (v30), Christ's Resurrection (v30), Christ's Ascension (v31).
 - e. [1Th 2:13 NASB95] 13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted [it] not [as] the word of men, but [for] what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.
 - f. As we value the releasing and receiving of the preached Word of God good things will happen in us.
-
- **When we live lives that are "of God" we will not be overthrown.**