

2 0 1 3 S U M M E R E D I T I O N

# CHRISTIAN SEEKING

## Identity

June-July

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Greetings  
Family  
&  
Friends,



*Suzan and I certainly pray that you are enjoying your summer and your special time with your families. We have been able to enjoy being home as well as visiting and enjoying being with our family.*

*In this months newsletter we address a question on a subject in which many books, seminars, and sermons have been written and talked about. The question: "Is God really an angry God that reacts with retaliation?" We pray that the article will help you and inspire you in your life.*

*We thank you for your love, your prayers and your support. You are the ones God has spoken to us about that He would send to help us accomplish what He has called us to do. Blessings to you!*

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## ✘ An Angry God in a Bad Mood ✘

*Is God an Angry God that lashes out against men and women when they do not please Him?*

That is what the story of Annanias and Sapphira seems to suggest. According to the account, the couple sold their possessions and gave the proceeds to the church to be distributed to those who had a need. They secretly kept back a portion of the money for themselves. When they were confronted with the truth, they both died and it caused "great fear" to come upon the people that were witness to it.

Does God use fear tactics to keep the church in line? Was it the hand of God that killed them and caused others to react in fear or could it be that a misinterpretation of these scriptures has given the enemy an occasion to blaspheme [misrepresent] the name of the Lord?

***And said, O full of all subtlety and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? Acts 13:10***

I believe that Annanias and Sapphira gave the enemy an occasion to speak reproachfully [1 Timothy 5:14] and it was the resulting condemnation that killed them. The people of the early church were filled with boldness as the Holy Ghost revealed himself to them. They were so confident in the words that were ministered to them that they sold their possessions knowing that God would use it to both minister to their needs and to those who had a lack. Annanias and Sapphira were recipients of that Holy Ghost inspired word.

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The trouble came when the enemy came to steal the word that the Holy Ghost spoke to them. **Mark 4:15**  
They sold their possessions, but they began to entertain second thoughts, “Will God really provide for us when we give up everything?” As a result, they kept back a part of the profit for a “rainy day” or in other words, “plan B” just in case God did not come through for them.

Satan has no love whatsoever for God’s creation. He whispers lies to us on one hand, and on the other hand when we begin to heed what he is speaking to us, he uses it as an occasion to bring condemnation, and he will use anyone and anything he can. When Peter confronted them with the truth, it caused them to both fall over dead! Not only did it cause enough stress to kill them, but the enemy also used it as a motivation factor to intimidate every one else.

## God does not use fear tactics to motivate us.

***For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7***

It is a revelation of God’s goodness, faithfulness and love that motivates men to walk with God according to kingdom principles.

***Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? Romans 2:4***

Those who are motivated by fear have not been made perfect in love.

***There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. 1 John 4:18***

***The enemy comes to kill, steal and destroy. God comes to give life. John 10:10***

The story of Annanias and Sapphira (***found in Acts 4:31 - Acts 5:11***) should be a reminder to us all of how destructive the lies of the enemy can be and what can result when we allow his conflicting words to supersede the words that the Holy Spirit has personally ministered to us.

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