Frank Briscoe

ACTS Chapter Five

"FIGHTING AGAINST GOD" Page 1

INTRODUCTION

TEXT: *"...but if it is of God, ye will not be able to overthrow them; lest haply* ve be found even to be fighting against God." (Acts 5:39).

- A. THE ADVISE OF GAMALIEL (5:34ff).
 - 1. Be careful of your action....see where it will take you.
 - 2. You could end up on the wrong side.
- B. WHAT IT MEANS TO "FIGHT AGAINST GOD".
 - 1. To go contrary to His will.
 - 2. To take a conflicting course.
 - 3. To rebel directly against God.
- C. WHO FIGHTS AGAINST GOD?
 - 1. The obvious.
 - 2. Sarte
 - 3. The author of "God is dead"
 - 4. Let us look at some. Maybe not as obvious. Who are fighting against God

TO LIE OR DECEIVE

A. Ananias and Sapphira

- 1. Sold their possessions
- 2. Gave a part to the Lord.
- 3. Lied about the amount.
- B. Did not have to give it all.
 - 1. Their sin was not the amount they gave...
 - 2. But they lied to the Holy Spirit.
- C. Many today fight against God...thinking that they can hide things from Him.
 - 1. They hide from man...
 - 2. They deceive...
 - 3. Try to deceive God...is to fight against God...

Saul of Tarsus..In Ignorance

- A. "I verily thought with my self that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth" (26:9)
 - 1. At the stoning of Stephen.
 - 2. "but Saul yet breathing threating and slaughter against the disciples of *the Lord*...." (9:1).
- B. Very Religions And In Good Conscience.
 - 1. Religiously wrong...Fight Against God.
 - 2. Thinking he was serving God. We need to examine our self and our
 - Direction to ensure that we do not end up "Fighting Against God".

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THE FOLLY

- A. "Who art thou that repliest against God" (Romans 9:19-21)
 - 1. How foolish of the creature to think that he can fight against the Creator.
 - 2. The idea there is to compare our strength and ability with God's.
 - 3. In such a comparison where do we stand.
- B. It is to Question God or what God has done.
 - 1. Why did He do it that way..
 - 2. Couldn't He see that our way is better...
 - 3. Who are we the *finite* to question the *Infinite*

MAN'S WISDOM

- A. "Where is the wise? where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For seeing that in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom knew not God, it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching to save them that believe" (I Cor. 1:20,21)..... "Now the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him; and he cannot know them, because they are spiritually judged" (I Cor. 2:14)..... "Let no man deceive himself. If any man thinketh that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool, that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He that taketh the wise in their craftiness: and again, The Lord knoweth the reasonings of the wise, that they are vain. Wherefore let no one glory in men. For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours, and ye are Christ's and Christ is God's" (I Cor. 3:18-23).
- B. Yet how many times in How many ways has man thought his ways better than God's.
- C. BIBLE EXAMPLES:
 - 1. King Saul...... 2. Naaman 3. Rich Young Ruler.....4 Agrippa
 - 2. What do all of these have in common?
 - 3. Religions of today, Doctrine's of today,

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AGAINST GOD'S WORD

- A. To fight against Bible is to fight Against God!
 - 1. In both Old and New God forbids man to change His Word.
 - 2. Can't add to it or take from it.
- B. Those who break....Transgress God's word.
 - 1. There have always been those who choose to do differently from what God has said.
 - 2. Adam and Eve
 - 3. Cain
 - 4. And Modern Man.
- C. To reject or disregard God's Word is to fight against God.
- D. To disobey God's word is to fight against God.
- E. To refuse His Invitation....

CONCLUSION

- A. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth unto his own flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth unto the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap eternal life." (Gal. 6:7-8).
- B. "And all the people answered and said, 'His blood be on us, and on our children'" (Matt. 27:25) now notice.... "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name: and behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us" (Acts 5:28).
- C. "I was not disobedient to that heavenly vision...." Paul.
- D. Are you obeying God or Fighting Against Him.
- E. <u>Romans chapter Seven:</u> His servant ye are whom ye obey.....