

RELIGIOUS BARGAIN-HUNTERS. Acts 5:1-2.

1. The story of Ananias and Sapphira has waved its warning across the path of man for many centuries. LONE OAK: MORN., 9-9-56

2. We are shown the folly of deception. Their effort to deceive is very plain.

1. We forget that our secrets are know to God... Our plans; Schemes; Evil Designs; Our meditations. A silent Watcher is always near who knows all. Gal. 6:7-8
Job 13:6-9.

3. We are shown the shame of shams.

1. Some men make pledges in stressful times which they do not intend to keep.

1. If the L^ord will let me live ETC.

2. Some people make vows to give as they have been prospered but they can never find a convenient starting place.

3. They borrow the L^ord's money and never pay it back.

4. In this story we are shown the disappointments in bargains.

1. These two were seeking short-cuts to glory... They were seeking bargain-counters in religion, and they met with shocking disappointment.

2. They wanted the blessings of religion.

3. They wanted the honor that goes with generosity without being generous.

4. They wanted greatness at the cheapest possible price.

5. Most people want to go to heaven when they die. *but they are not willing to live the heavenly life here on earth*

1. The three words forbid any ritualistic or formal prayer.

1- ASK - SEEK - KNOCK
Receive - Findeth - Opened

2. Acceptable prayer must be made in harmony with God's will

1- We must ask in faith. James 1:6-7

2. we must not ask to gratify our own lust. James 4:3

3. we must ask according to the will of God. 1 John 5:14

2. How God answers Prayer-

1- Employing th itself is an answer on our commune with God.

2. The giving of that for which we ask

3. The prayer is answered in the spirit of our prayer rather something better than that for which we ask is given.