



## Decade of Availability Prophetic Endings

*May my yes be yes,  
And my no be no,  
May my half be half,  
And my whole be whole.*

**Introduction:** Remember, we are using the term ‘prophetic’ to mean the power of speaking God into the lives of those around us. It can also be applied to speaking something of God’s Word into my own heart.

**A. Prophetic Endings** Ecclesiastes makes it clear that there are seasons in our lives and they are often marked by ‘endings.’ Some are necessary endings and some are not. Here are some Biblical examples of endings: (See Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

- David could no longer go out to battle *2 Sam 21:17-22*
- Peter ends his fishing career *Luke 5:11*
- Don’t be drunk—be filled with the Spirit *Eph 5:18*
- Our life is a vapor *James 4:14*

### **B. Prophetic Pruning: Ananias and Sapphira**

The Bible is filled with agricultural examples of pruning for the purpose of producing GOOD fruit.

*Is today the biggest enemy of your tomorrow?*

#### 1. Ananias and Sapphira

- Ananias = Yahweh is gracious
- Sapphira = Beautiful
- The Holy Spirit had filled and refilled the Church and there was a wonderful sense of oneness *Acts 4: 32-47*
- After God’s ultimate pruning, did they make it to heaven?

#### 2. Ananias

- There was no mandate that anyone had to sell all they had—it was a voluntary act led of the Spirit.
- In this case, an act of deceit against the Church was a sin against the Lord of the Church.
- The deceit was ‘**appearing**’ to be dedicating ‘all’ of the proceeds from the sale to the Church.
- Satan filled his heart but Ananias made the decision to lie to Peter and the Holy Spirit (*God*).

#### 3. Peter

- It appears that Peter had ‘discerned’ by the Spirit what the truth was.
- Notice how Peter questions Ananias in verses 3-4. Some see that he was giving room for repentance (Jewish style of pausing after asking a question)—Ananias was silent.
- The end of verse 4 is a prophetic word that resulted in the ultimate pruning in the early Church.

#### 4. Sapphira

- Here’s a time when a wife should have drawn a line in the sand and said to her husband, “NO WAY—you do this thing you are on your own.”

*Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers.  
Pray for powers equal to your tasks!*

Acts 5:1-11 (NKJV)

1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession.

2 And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles’ feet.

3 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?

4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”

5 Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. **So great fear came upon all those who heard these things.**

6 And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him.

7 Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

8 And Peter answered her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?” She said, “Yes, for so much.”

9 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.”

10 Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband.

11 **So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.**