

Acts 5 • What to Expect from the Enemy

The Opposition from Within

1. (v.1-2) Spiritual deception is often **twisting** a legitimate thing within the church to glorify **self** instead of **God**.
2. (v.3-4) Spiritual deception is the inevitable result of unresolved **sin**.
3. (v.5-11) Spiritual deception is ultimately resolved by God's **judgment**.
4. (v.12-16) Effective ministry is **purged** of spiritual deception because it has first been **purged** of sin.

The Opposition from Without

5. (v.17-21a) The ultimate goal of spiritual persecution is always to hinder the **preaching** of the Gospel.
6. (v.21b-26) Persecutors are far more worried about their own **position** and **reputation** than in the **truth**.
7. (v.27-32) The right response to persecutors:
 - a. Speak nothing but the **truth**. (v.29)
 - b. Preach the **Gospel**. (v.30-31)
 - c. Always make the issue about **Jesus** even when referring to our self. (v.32)
8. (v.33-40) Since the persecutors are spiritually **blind**, they assume everyone else is as well.
9. (v.41-42) Overcoming persecution is measured in the degree to which we deviate from **preaching** the **whole** Gospel.