



BIBLE TALK

Mike King

Question: Does God kill people today as He did in Bible times?

Answer: Through the centuries, God has manifested His majesty, authority, and dominion in various ways in His dealings with man. Our God is a God of love; but He is also a consuming fire (1 Jn. 4:8; Heb. 10:29). God extends His blessings to those who obey Him; but there are warnings to all who would intentionally refuse to obey His word.

A couple of examples demonstrating the wrathful nature of God can be used to stress the point. In 1 Kgs. 13, the young prophet openly disobeyed God's expressed command not to eat in Bethel; but he believed a false prophet rather than God, and paid for it with his life. Ananias and Sapphira deliberately lied against the Holy Spirit and God made an open example of them (Acts 5). In both cases, the word of God was confirmed by supernatural power! There was an awesome display of God's power and dominion, and it served His own pleasure in establishing His word as absolute, authoritative, and final!

When God's word was confirmed by miracles, there was no further need for confirmation, and no further need for miracles. About 30-40 years after the death of Ananias and Sapphira, the writer of the Hebrew letter explained why these miracles were done; they were to confirm and bear witness of the spoken words as being from God (Heb. 2:3-4). The death of Ananias and Sapphira, brought great fear on all the church!

If we do not believe that God was instrumental in the deaths of the young prophet, Ananias and Sapphira, one embraces modernistic thinking. If we believe that God is still performing death-dealing miracles, we deny the confirmed word! Peter stated that there was "*a more sure word of prophecy*" (2 Pet. 1:19). We are not to turn from God's word, confirmed by signs and miracles by the Holy Spirit through inspired men, and expect more confirmation!

For inquiries or free Bible study by mail, contact:

New Albany Church of Christ

***P.O. Box 148, 511 Hwy 15 S ~ New Albany, MS 38652
nacoc.us ~ 662-534-4649 ~ bibletalk.mlk@gmail.com***