

# Acts.

# Generous Living

- ASK GOD TO REVEAL NEEDS AROUND YOU
- PRAY FOR BOLDNESS TO GIVE FREELY

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but **they shared everything they had.**<sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all<sup>34</sup> that **there were no needy persons among them.** For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales<sup>35</sup> and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

<sup>36</sup> Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called **Barnabas** (which means "son of encouragement"),<sup>37</sup> sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

ACTS 4:32-37 NIV

Now a man named **Ananias**, together with his wife Sapphira, **also sold a piece of property.**

ACTS 5:1 NIV

**ANANIAS** → Generosity

Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property.<sup>2</sup> With his wife's full knowledge **he kept back part** of the money for **himself**, but **brought the rest** and put it at the **apostles' feet**.

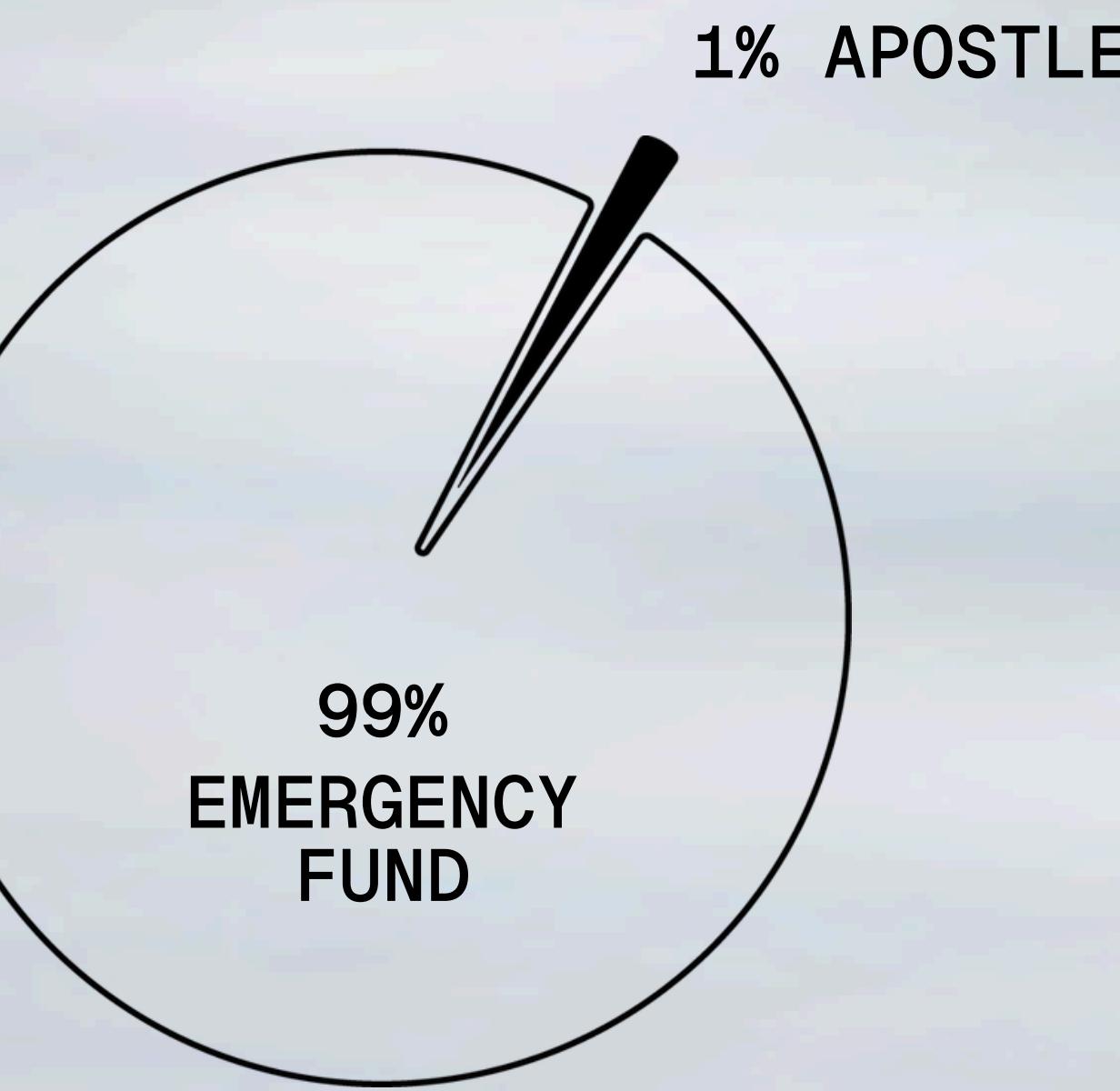
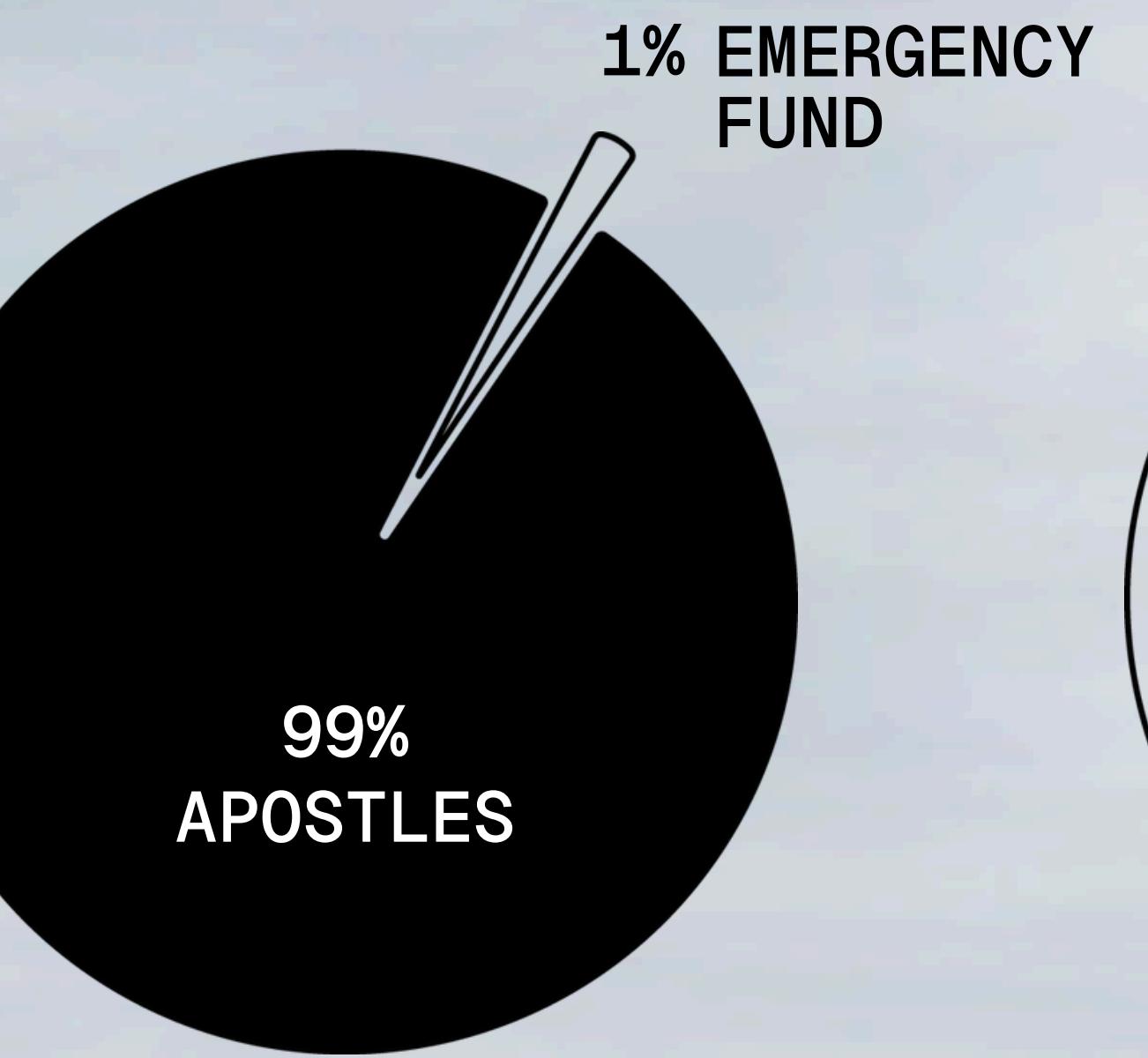
ACTS 5:1-2 NIV

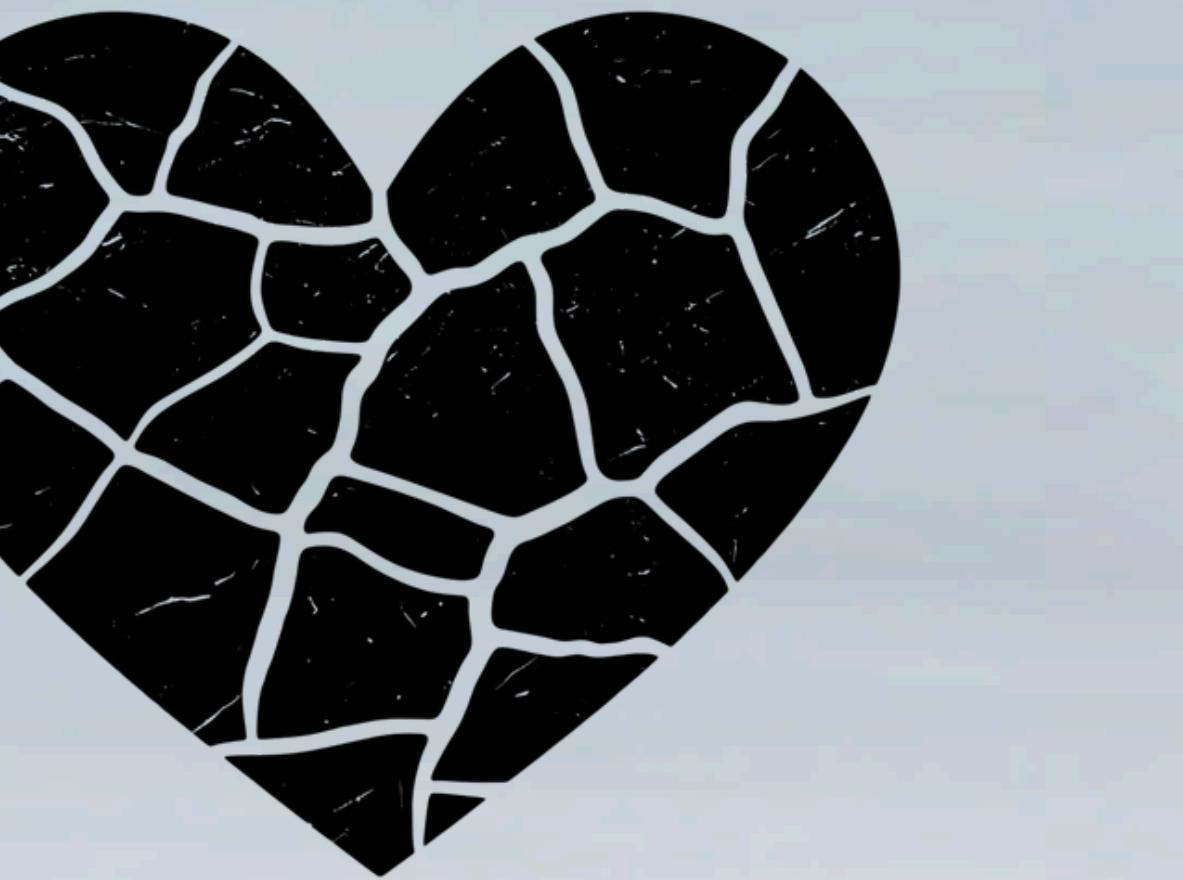
ANANIAS → Generosity Sin

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ACTS 5:1-2 NIV

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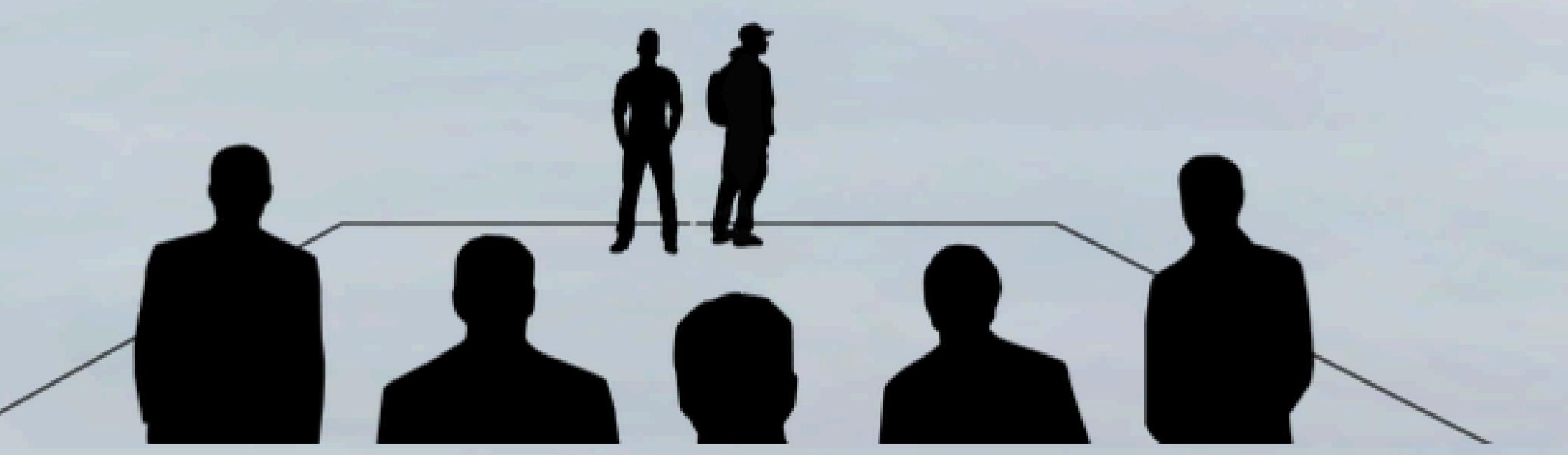




Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that **Satan has so filled your heart** that you have **lied** to the Holy Spirit and **have kept for yourself** some of the money you received for the land? <sup>4</sup> Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t **the money at your disposal?** What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God.”

ACTS 5:3-4 NIV

**ANANIAS** → Generosity Sin → Exposure



EXTERNAL OPPOSITION  
ACTS 4

?

?

?

?

INTERNAL POLLUTION  
ACTS 5

**When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died.** And great fear seized all who heard what had happened.<sup>6</sup> Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.

ACTS 5:5-6 NIV

**ANANIAS** → Generosity Sin → Exposure → Judgement

Φόβος

# Phobos

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→ fear, dread or terror

ANANIAS → Generosity Sin → Exposure → Judgement → Fear

Everyone was **filled with awe** at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

ACTS 2:43 NIV

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<sup>6</sup> Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.

ACTS 5:5-6 NIV

Now a man named Ananias, **together with his wife Sapphira**, also sold a piece of property.<sup>2</sup> With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.

ACTS 5:1-2 NIV

**SAPPHIRA** → Generosity

Now a man named Ananias, **together with his wife Sapphira**, also sold a piece of property.<sup>2</sup> **With his wife's full knowledge** he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.

ACTS 5:1-2 NIV

**SAPPHIRA** → Generosity Sin

About three hours later his wife came in, **not knowing what had happened.**<sup>8</sup> Peter asked her, “Tell me, **is this the price** you and Ananias got for the land?” “Yes,” she said, “that is the price.”

ACTS 5:7-8 NIV

**SAPPHIRA** → Generosity Sin

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ACTS 5:7-8 NIV

**SAPPHIRA** → Generosity Sin

Peter said to her, “How could you **conspire to test the Spirit of the Lord?** Listen! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also.”

ACTS 5:9 NIV

**SAPPHIRA** → Generosity Sin → Exposure

**At that moment she fell down at his feet and died.** Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband.<sup>11</sup> Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.

ACTS 5:10-11 NIV

**SAPPHIRA** → Generosity Sin → Exposure → Judgement

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ACTS 5:10-11 NIV

**SAPPHIRA** → Generosity Sin → Exposure → Judgement → Fear

**HOW DO I APPLY THIS?**

**Sin → Exposure → Judgement → Fear**

HOW DO I **(NOT)** APPLY THIS?

Sin → Exposure → Judgement → Fear

- Owning property or saving money is sinful

HOW DO I **(NOT)** APPLY THIS?

**Sin → Exposure → Judgement → Fear**

- Owning property or saving money is sinful
- The Church is for perfect people

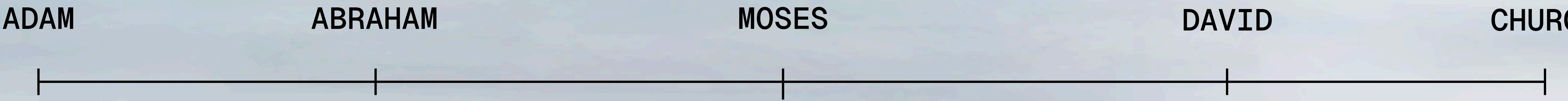
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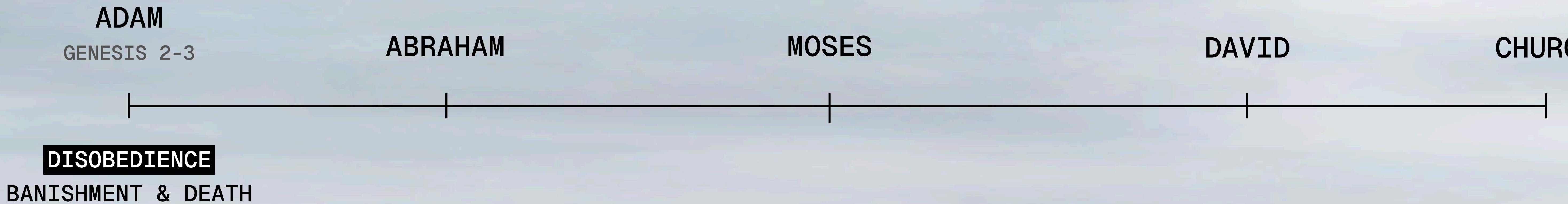
- Owning property or saving money is sinful
- The Church is for perfect people
- If you lie, you die**



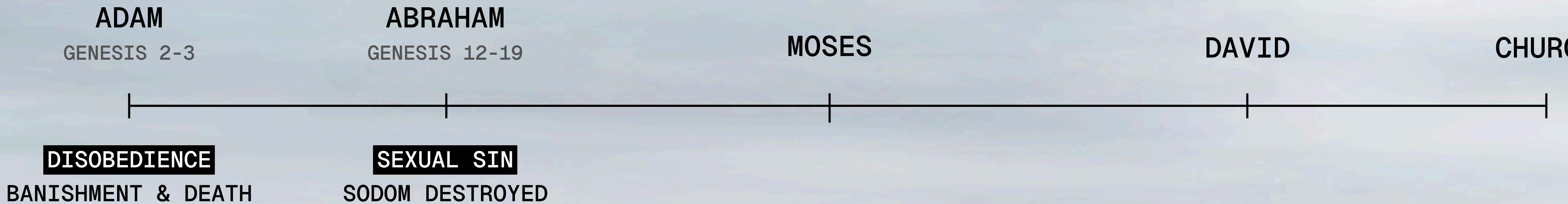
# God's Covenant Pattern



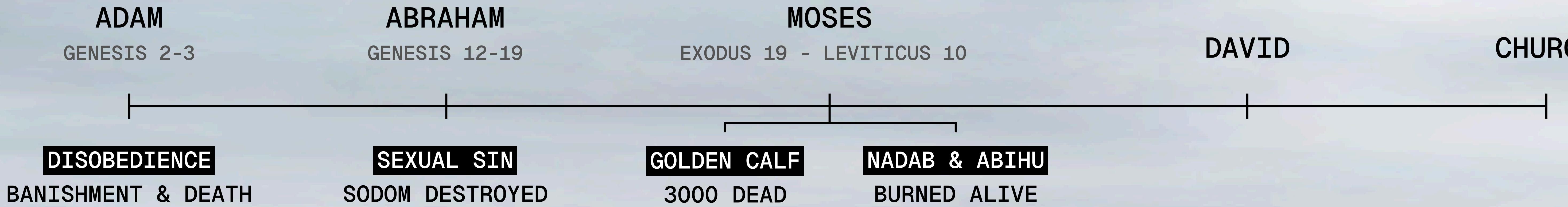
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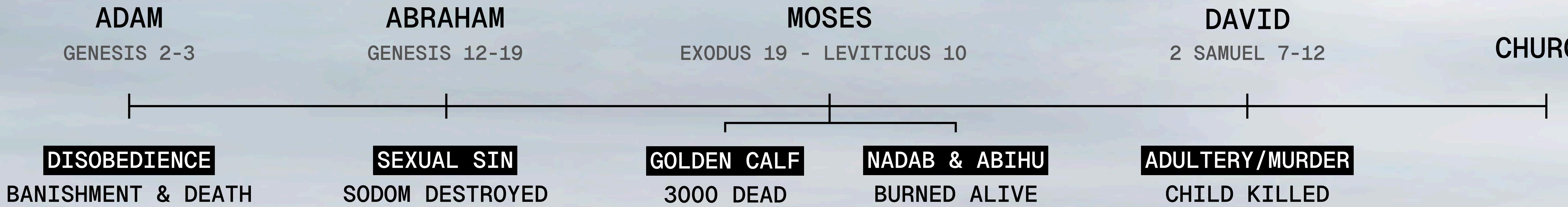
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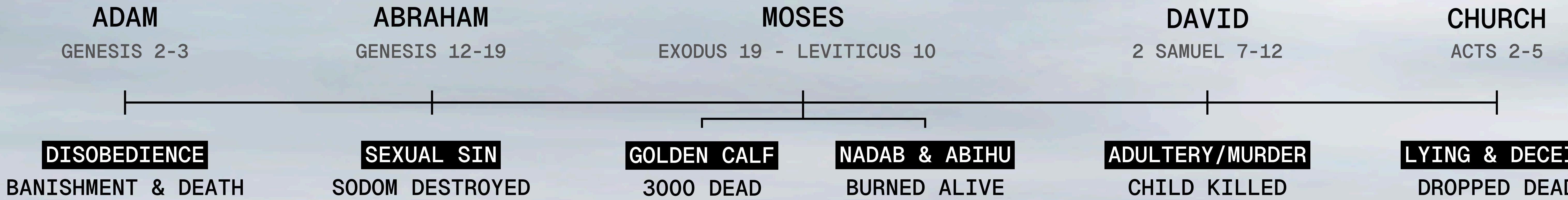
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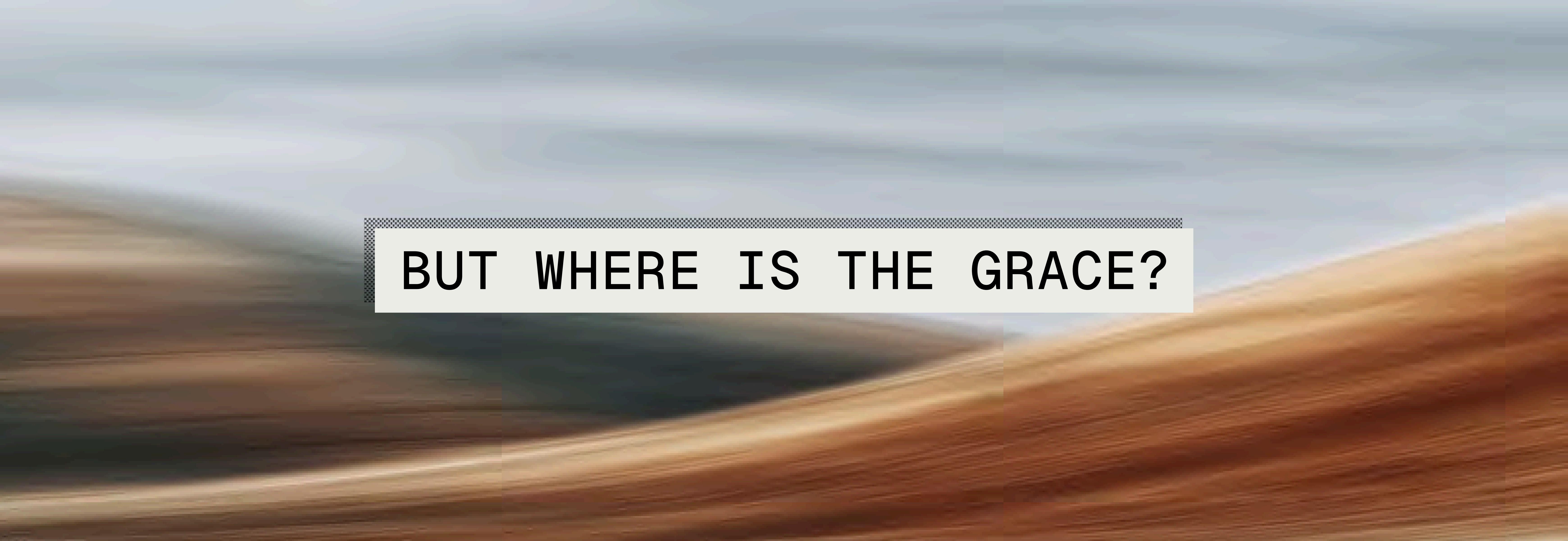


# God's Covenant Pattern



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**BUT WHERE IS THE GRACE?**

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And **God is faithful**; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, **he will also provide a way out** so that you can endure it.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:13 NIV

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1 CORINTHIANS 10:13 NIV

- They sold the land
- They talked about it
- They agreed to lie
- They parted ways
- He carried the money
- He gave it to the apostles
- She was asked personally

The apostles performed **many signs and wonders** among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade.<sup>13</sup> **No one else dared join them**, even though they were highly regarded by the people.<sup>14</sup> Nevertheless, **more and more men and women believed in the Lord** and were added to their number.<sup>15</sup> As a result, **people brought the sick into the streets** and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by.<sup>16</sup> Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, **bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.**

ACTS 5:12-16 NIV

HOW DO I APPLY THIS?

Sin → Exposure → Judgement → Fear

HOW DO I APPLY THIS?

~~Sin~~ → Exposure → Judgement → Fear

**While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples,** for there were many who followed him.<sup>16</sup> When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"<sup>17</sup> On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "**It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.**"

MARK 2:15-17 NIV

HOW DO I APPLY THIS?

~~Sin~~ → Exposure → Judgement → Fear

HOW DO I APPLY THIS?

Sin ← Confession ← Atonement ← Awe

## Come Broken

My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart  
you, God, will not despise.

PSALM 51:17 NIV



## Be Restored

Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

PSALM 51:10 NIV

## CONFESS & REPENT

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

JAMES 5:16 ESV

## RECEIVE & GIVE GRACE

Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief.<sup>14</sup> The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

1 TIMOTHY 1:13-14 NIV