



“The Judgment of the Spirit”

Acts 5:1-11

- Why did Ananias die?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- What are implications for us?



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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 ..."

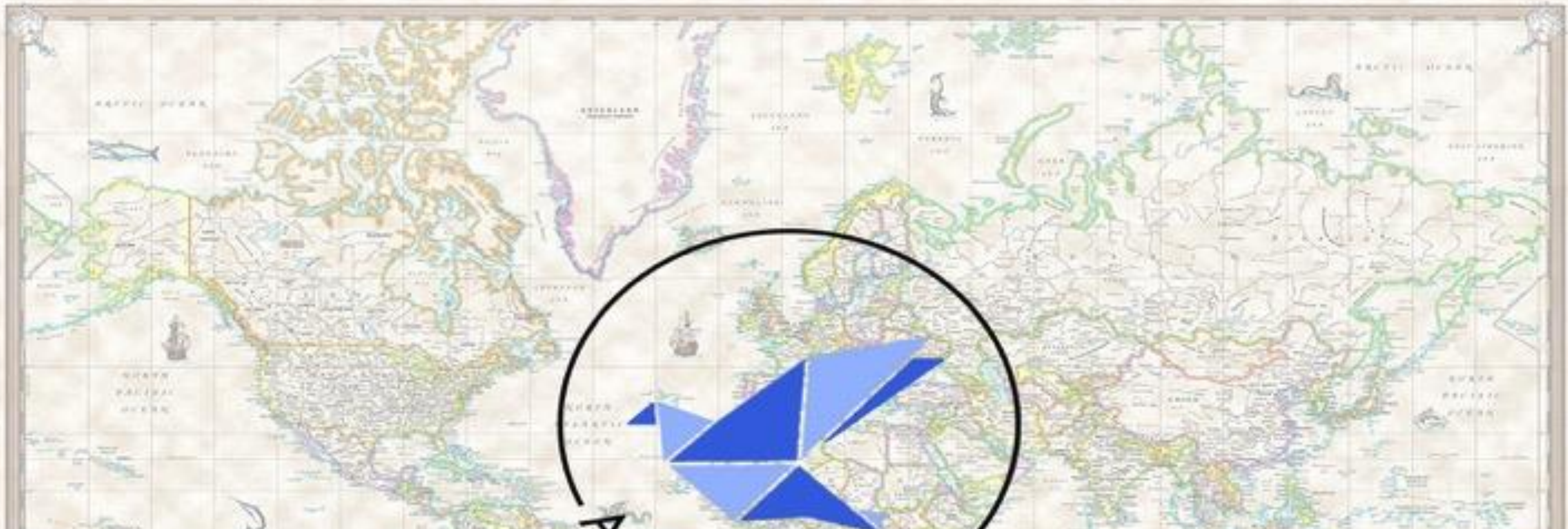
Acts 4:32-37

Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. ... Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need. And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles ... , a Levite of the country of Cyprus, having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 4:36 – 5:2

And Joses, who was also named **Barnabas** by the apostles ... , a Levite of the country of Cyprus, having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet. **BUT** a certain man named **Ananias**, with **Sapphira** his wife, sold a possession. 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.



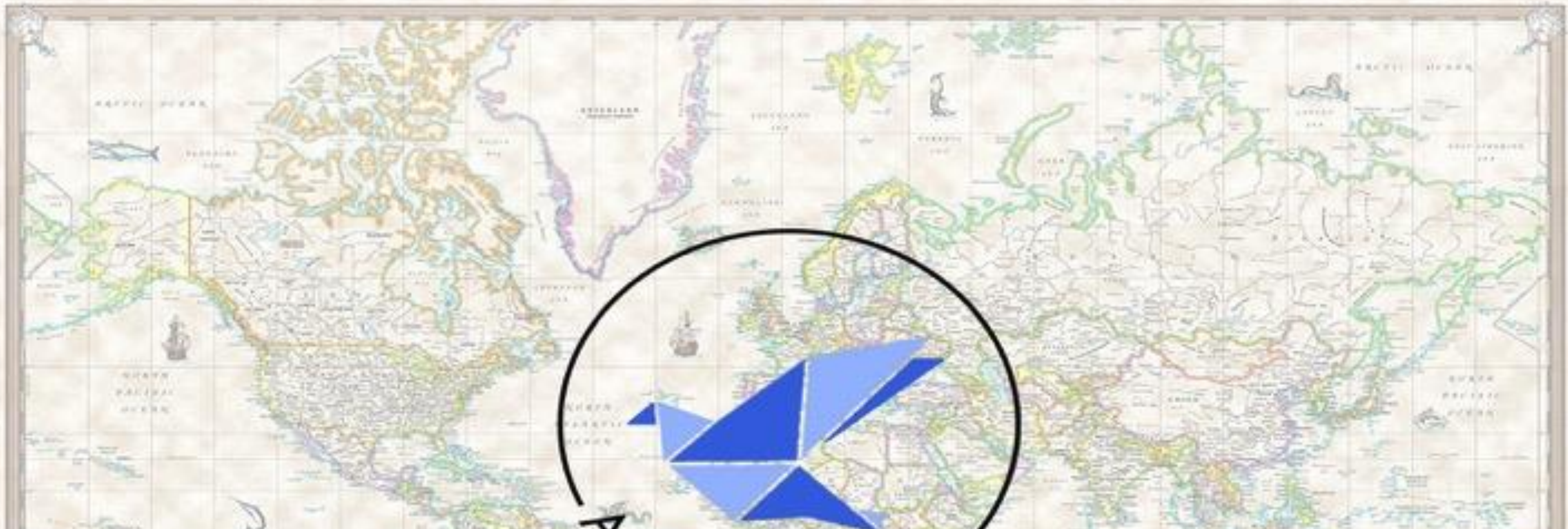


“When the **Day of Pentecost** had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.” **Acts 2:1-3**

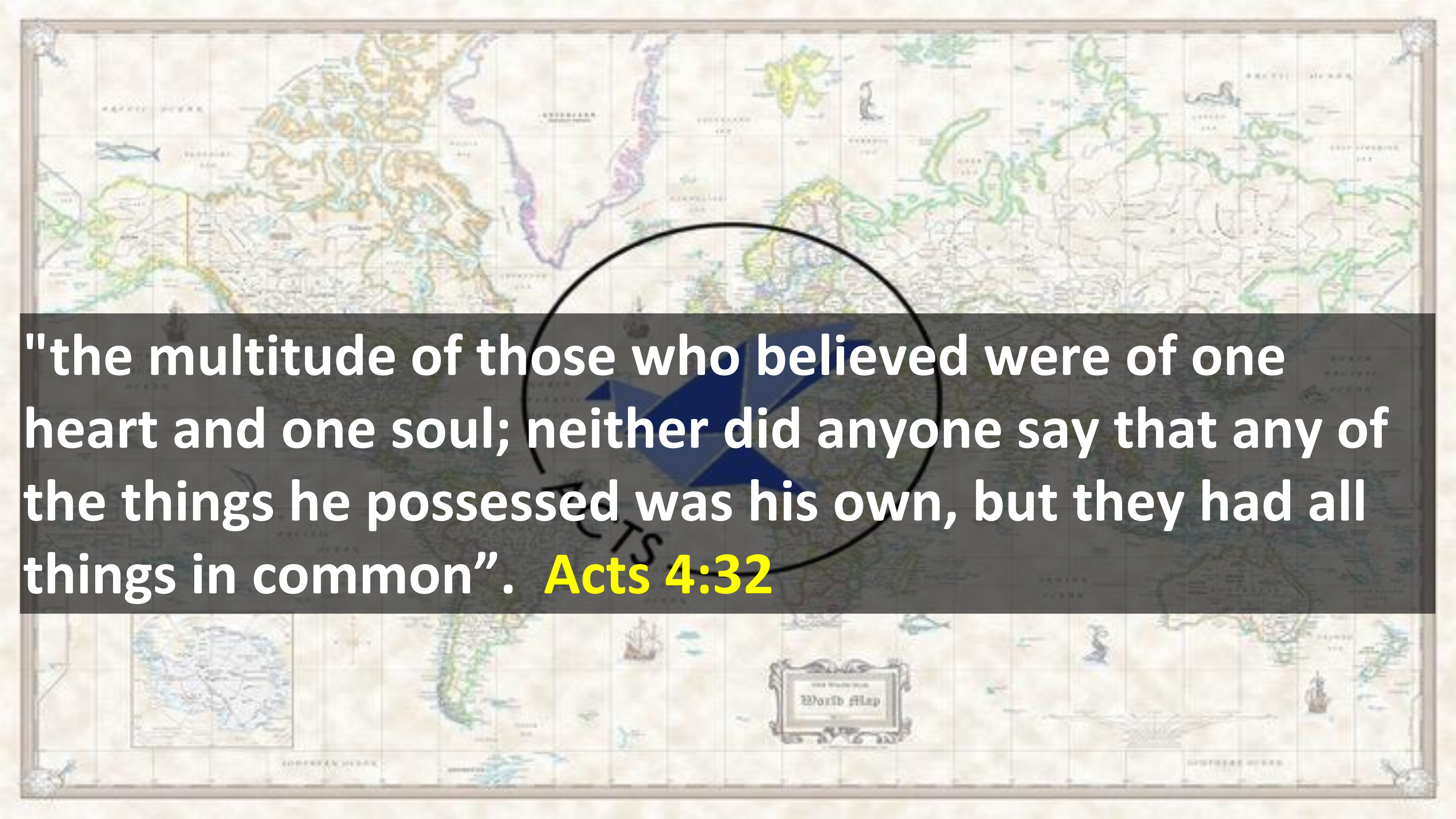


Exodus 40:33-35

“So Moses finished the work [of the tabernacle]. Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.”



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A historical world map with a circular graphic overlay. The map shows the continents of North America, South America, Europe, and Africa. A large blue star is centered over the Atlantic Ocean, with the word "ACTS" written in a stylized font across it. A dark grey semi-transparent box is overlaid on the map, containing white text.

"the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common". **Acts 4:32**

Acts 5:1-4

But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. 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. 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? ... Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”**

- Why did Ananias die?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- What are implications for us?



“The Judgment of the Spirit”
Acts 5:1-11



Why did they die?

Ananias and Sapphira died, not because their act was particularly sinful, but because they (in their hardness of heart) failed to recognize the Presence of God in their midst.

Leviticus 10:1-3

Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. **So fire went out from the Lord and devoured them, and they died before the Lord.** And Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the Lord spoke, saying: **‘By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; and before all the people I must be glorified.’ ”**

- Why did Ananias die?
- **Who is the Holy Spirit?**
- What are implications for us?

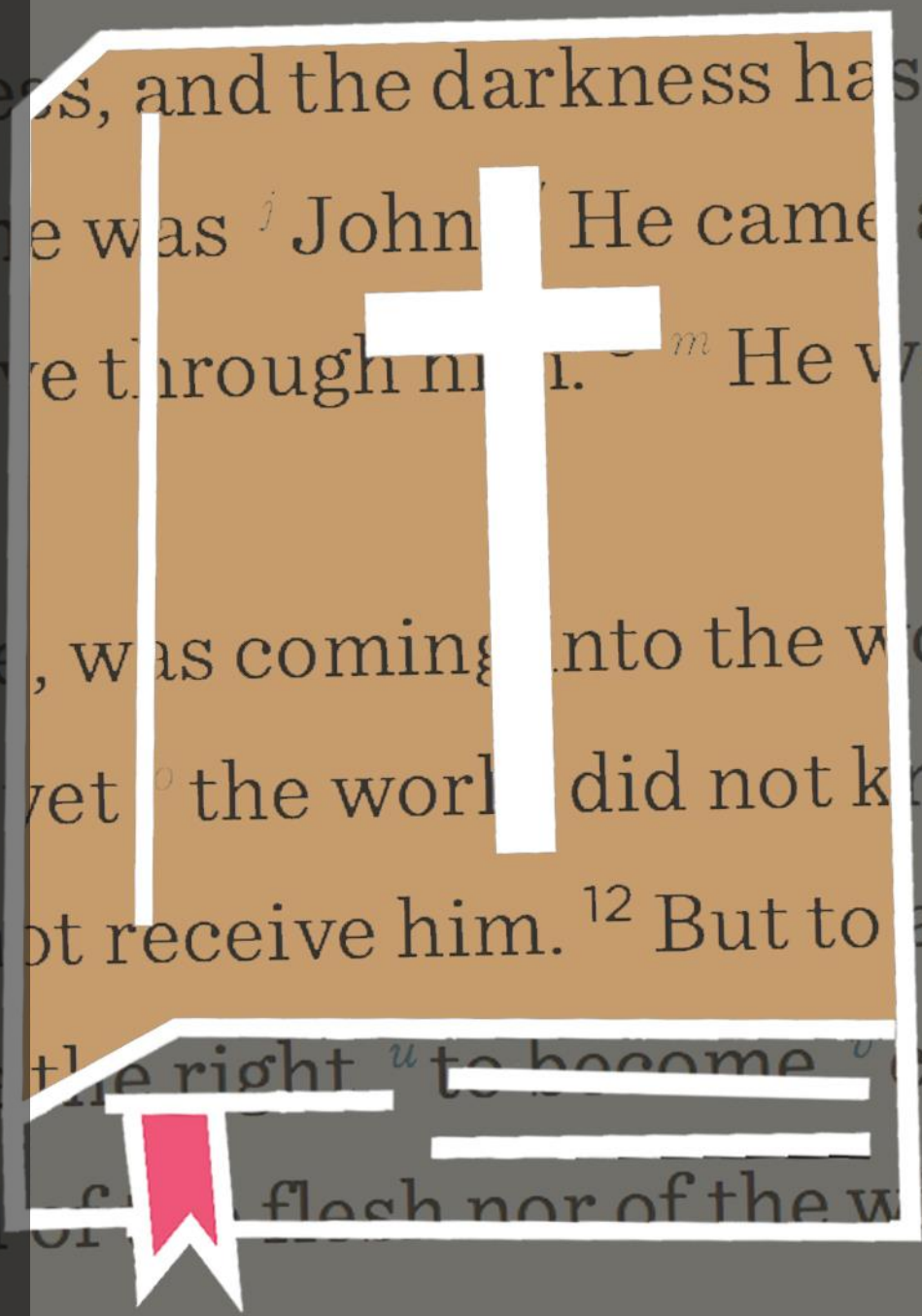


“The Judgment of the Spirit”
Acts 5:1-11

Acts 5:1-4

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... when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. John 16:8-11



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Acts 5:1-4

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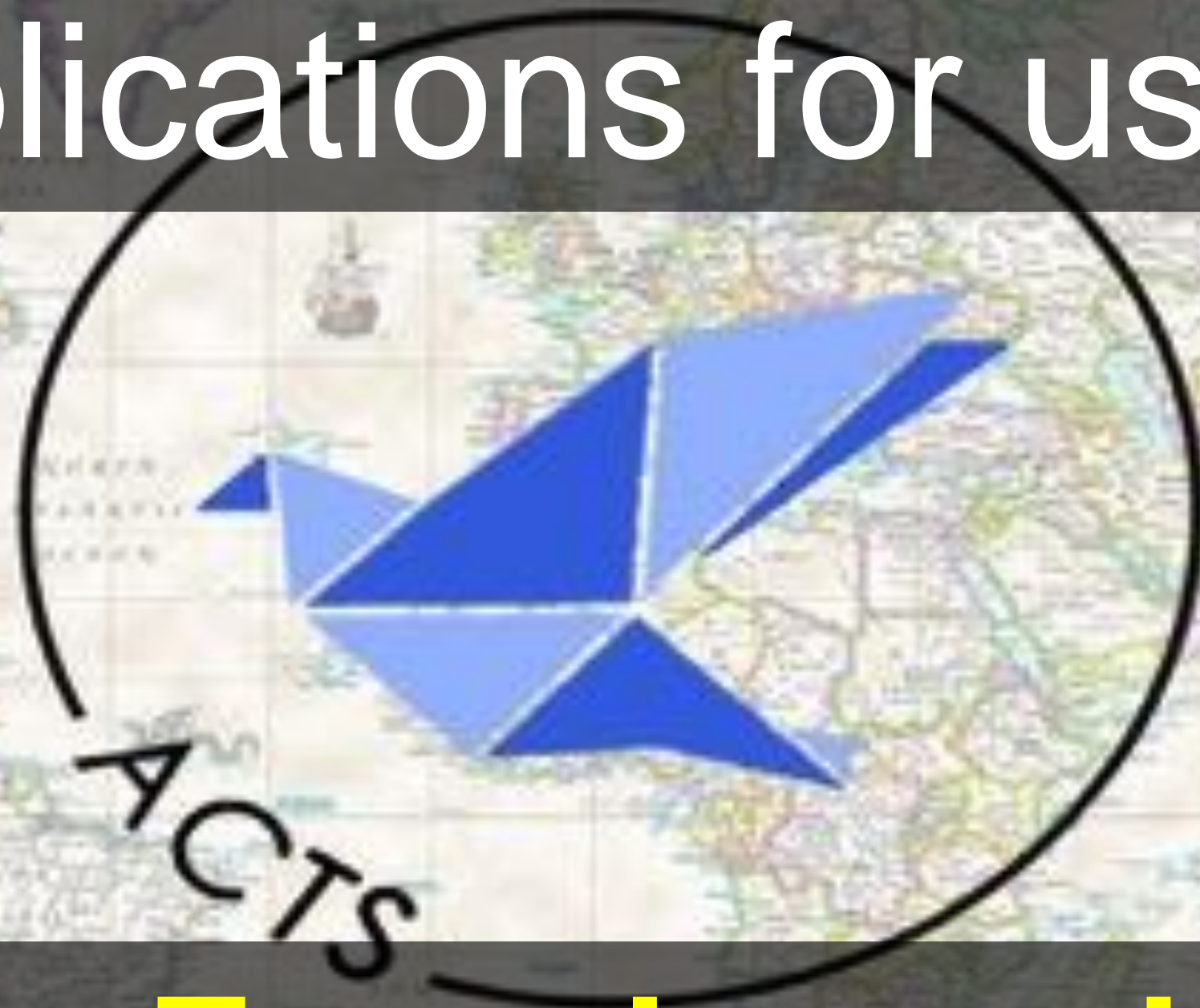
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Acts 5:1-5

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- Why did Ananias die?
- **Who is the Holy Spirit?**
- What are implications for us?



The Holy Spirit is Founder and Lord of the Church, and therefore he who threatens the Church is in danger of the Spirit's judgment.

"Do you not know that you (the church) are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God (the church) God will destroy him ... " 1 Cor 3:16-17



The Holy Spirit is Founder and Lord of the Church, and therefore he who threatens the Church is in danger of the Spirit's judgment.

Acts 5:5-11

Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last.

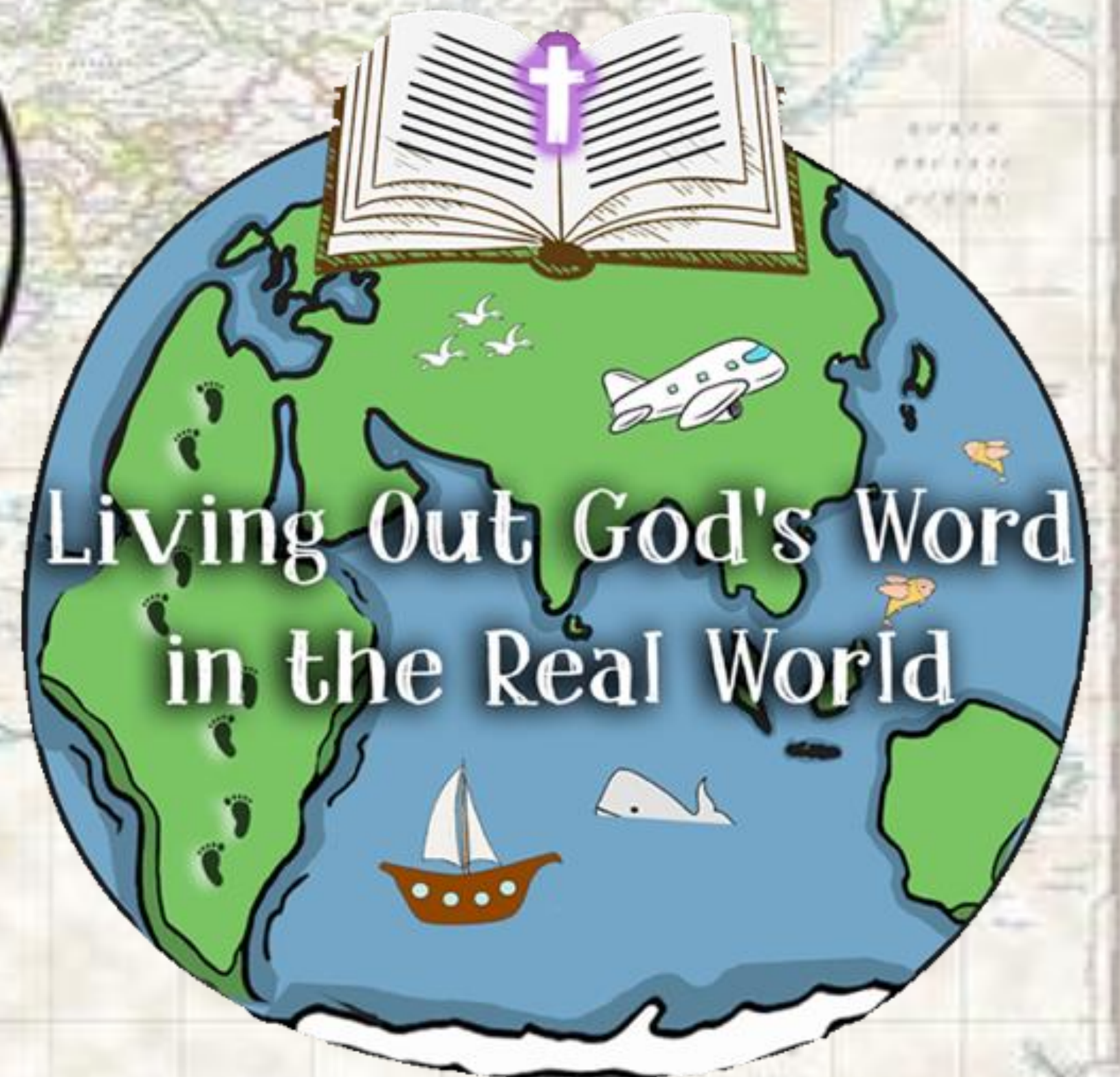
So great fear came upon all those who heard these things.

And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him. Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. And Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?" She said, "Yes, for so much."

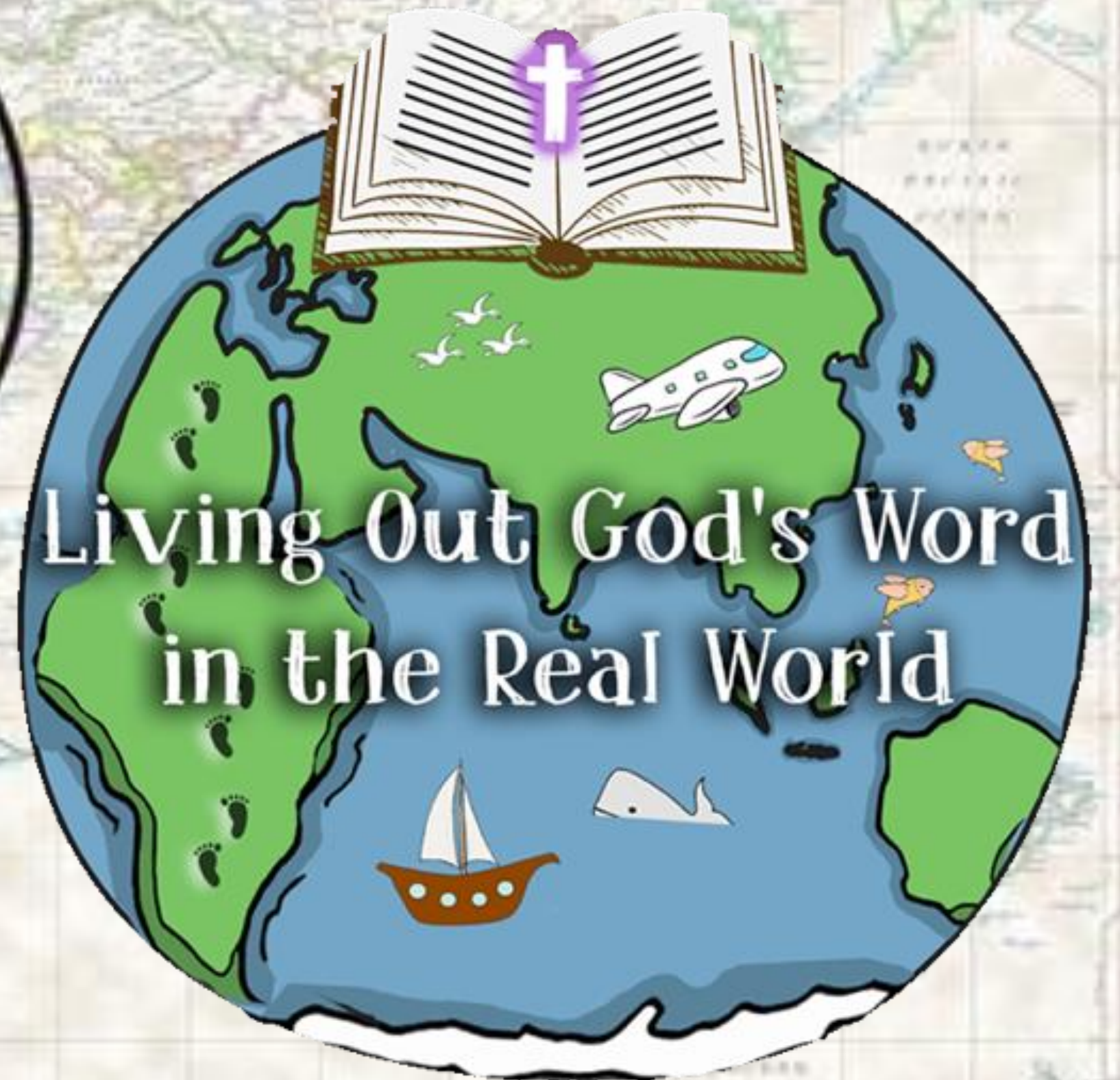
Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband.

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

- Why did Ananias die?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- **What are implications for us?**



#1 - God takes sin very seriously,
and His judgment is real.



Acts 13:8-11

"But Elymas the sorcerer ... withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? **And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.**" And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand."

A world map with a dark blue star in the center and a semi-transparent text box overlaid. The text box contains the text of Acts 12:21-24. The map is a vintage-style world map with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. The text is in white and yellow. The star is a dark blue five-pointed star with a white outline. The text box is a dark grey rectangle with rounded corners.

Acts 12:21-24

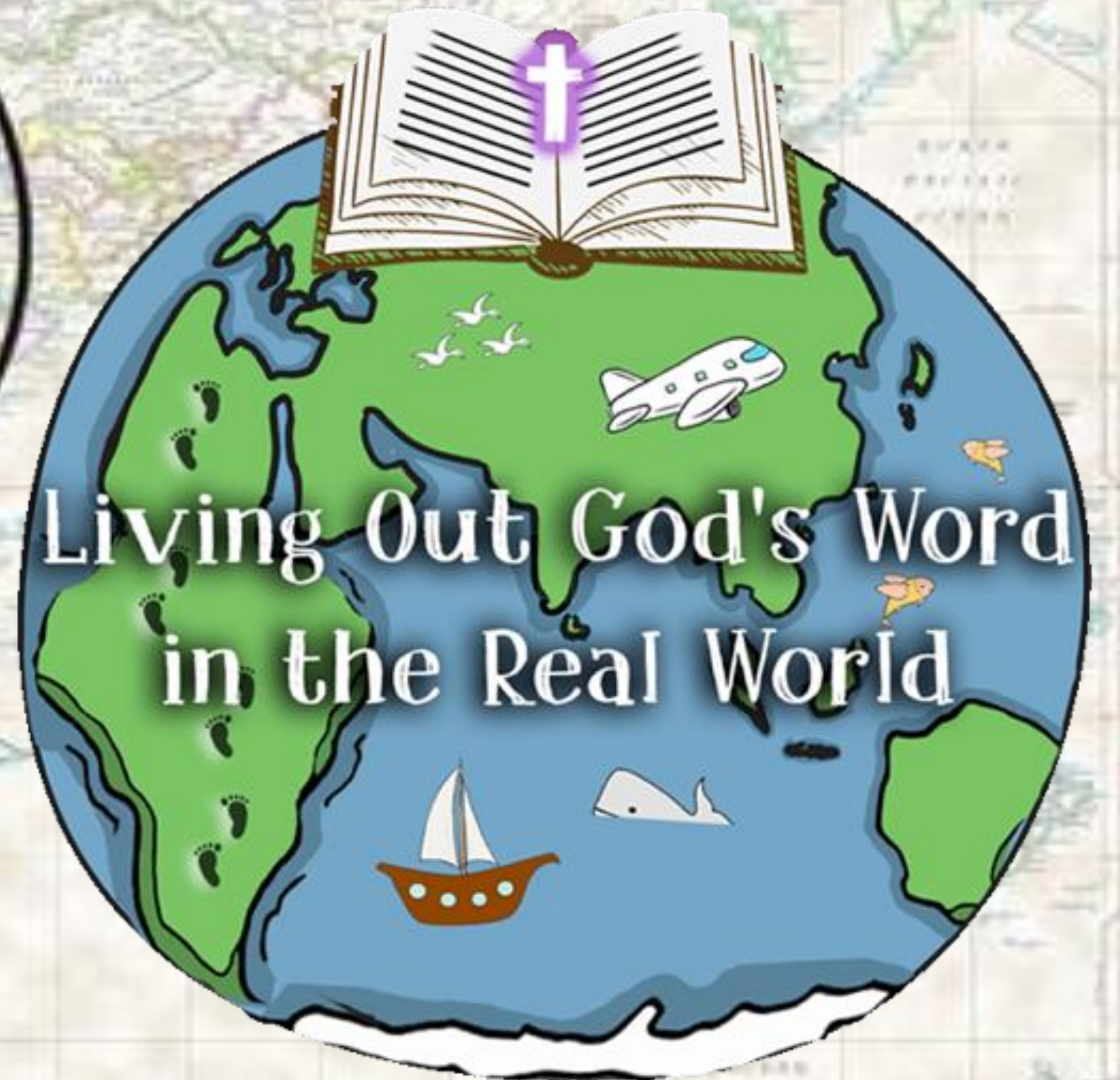
"So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. And the people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died. But the word of God grew and multiplied."



**But [the time is coming when] the earth shall
be filled with the knowledge of the glory of
the Lord as the waters cover the sea.**

Habakkuk 2:14

#1 - God takes sin very seriously,
and His judgment is real.



Living Out God's Word
in the Real World



Acts 5:7-9

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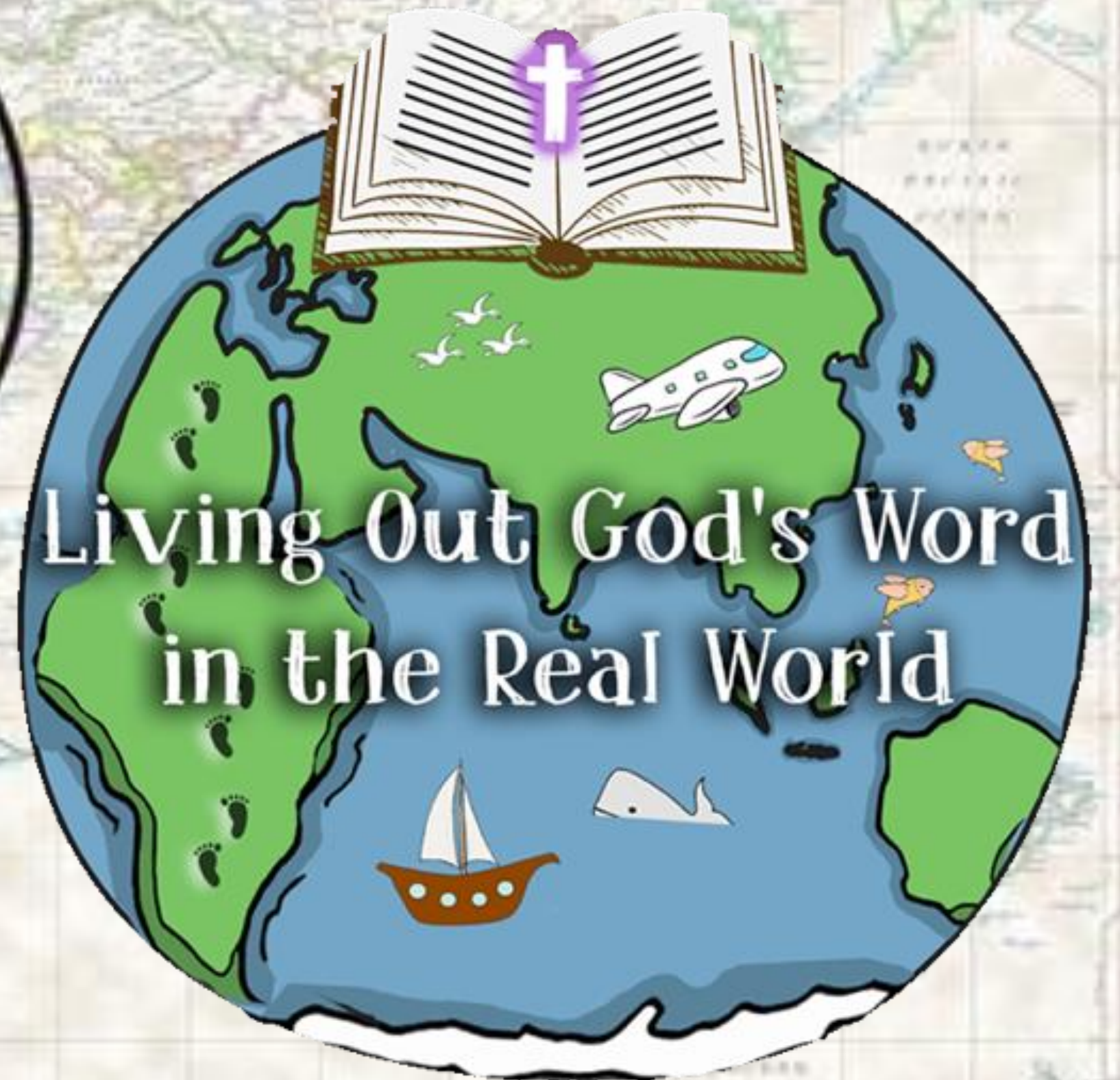
She said, “Yes, for so much.”

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.”

#1 - God takes sin very seriously, and His judgment is real. **Fear God, don't treat sin lightly.**



#2 - "Where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also."



Acts 5:1-3

But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. 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. 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?”**

Acts 2:42-45

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.



Acts 4:32-35 (NIV)

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. 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 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 and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

#2 - Christianity is a generous faith,
and Christians are generous people.



Acts 5:3-5

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? While it remained, was it not your own? **(Yes!)** And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? **(Yes!)** ... You have not lied to men but to God.”

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? While it remained, was it not your own? **(No!)** And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? **(Yes, and No!)** ... You have not lied to men but to God.”

Acts 5:5-7

When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. **And great fear seized all who heard what had happened.** Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him. **About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.**

ACTS

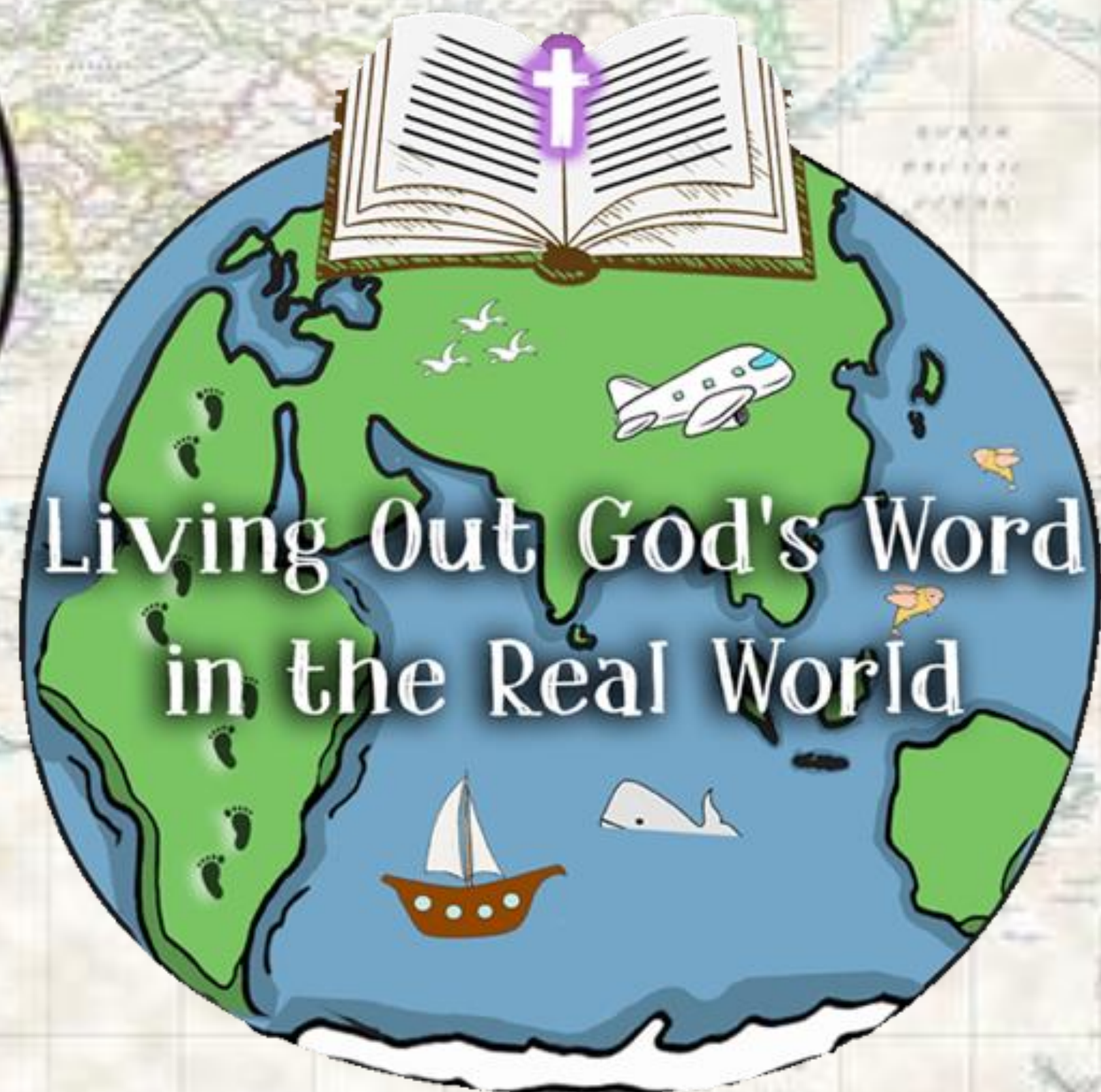
World Map

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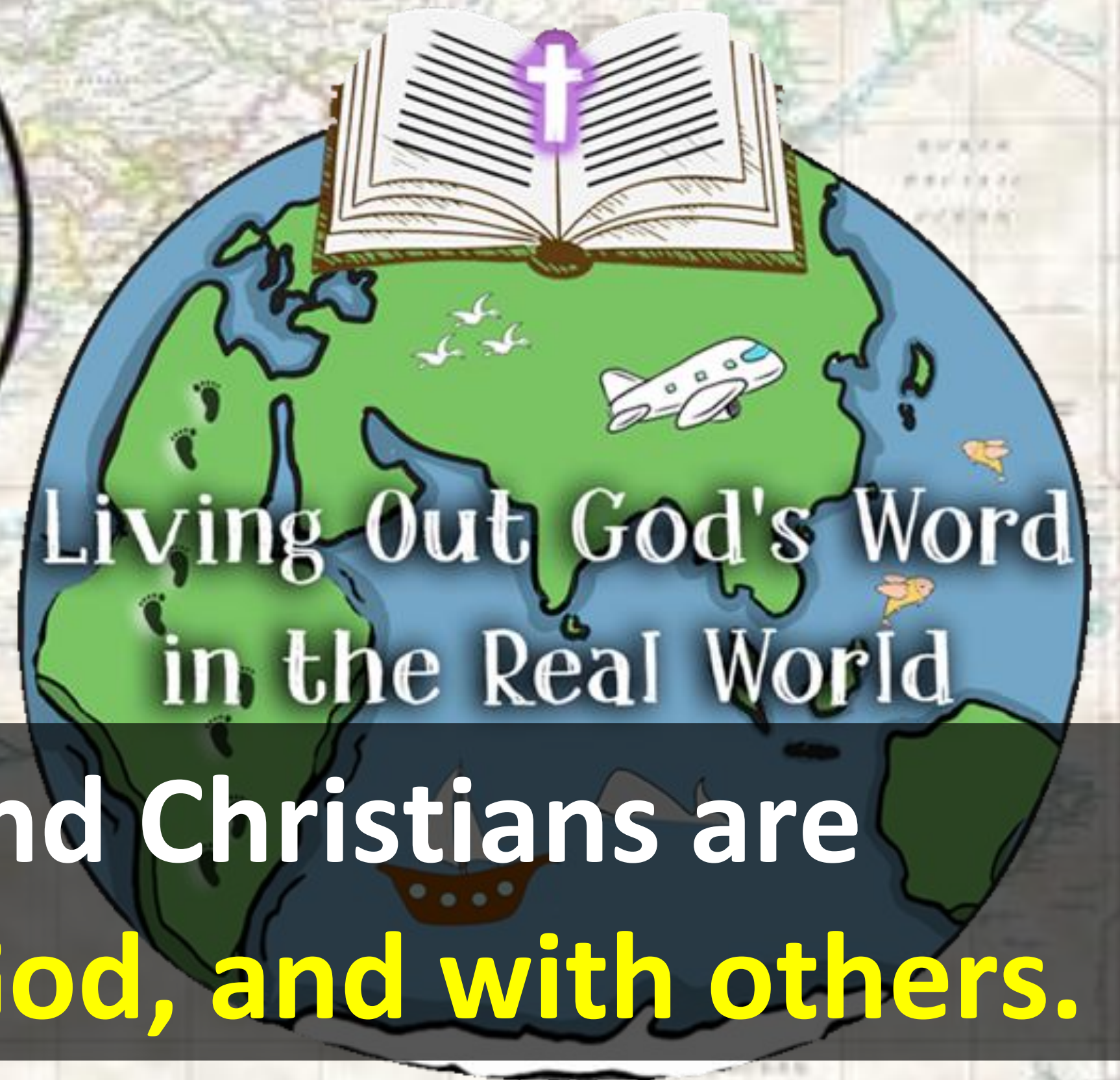
Fear God, don't be stingy, miserly or calculative!



- Why did Ananias die?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
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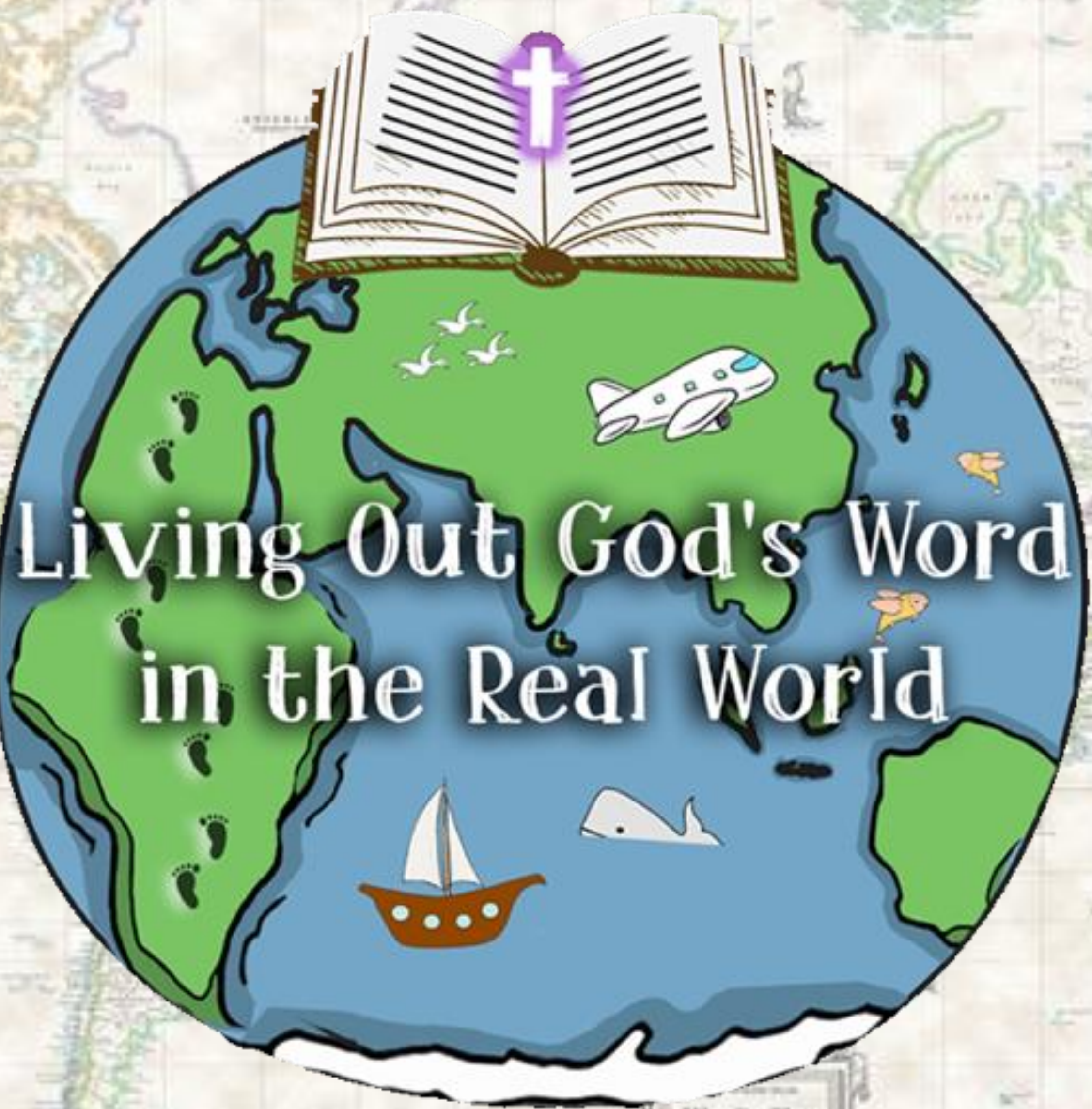
#1 - God takes sin very seriously, and His judgment is real. **Fear God, don't treat sin lightly.**



#2 - Christianity is a generous faith, and Christians are generous people. **Be generous with God, and with others.**

2 Timothy 3:1-5

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power.** Have nothing to do with such people.**



Living Out God's Word in the Real World

World Map