

# Acts 5:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

## Analysis

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The phrase 'kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it' describes deliberate, conspiratorial deception. The Greek 'enosphisato' (kept back) is used in Joshua 7:1 for Achan's theft, linking this sin to Israel's conquest crisis. This wasn't mere withholding but fraudulent representation. 'His wife also being privy' (Greek 'syneidia,' conscious knowledge) makes this premeditated conspiracy, not impulsive lie. Bringing 'a certain part' while implying the whole exemplifies Jesus' warning about serving two masters.

## Historical Context

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Property sales were voluntary (v. 4), not mandatory. The sin was deception, not incomplete giving. The couple likely sought Barnabas-level reputation (Acts 4:36-37) without matching sacrifice. Ancient culture's honor/shame dynamic made public recognition valuable, tempting counterfeit piety.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does conspiring together in sin compound individual guilt?
2. What does 'keeping back part' while claiming the whole reveal about money's grip on the heart?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	ἐνοσφίσατο	ἀπὸ	τῆς	τιμῆς	συνειδυίας	καὶ	τῆς
<b>And</b>	<b>kept back</b>	<b>part of</b>	G3588	<b>the price</b>	<b>being privy</b>	<b>And</b>	G3588
G2532	G3557	G575		G5092	G4894	G2532	
γυναικός	αὐτοῦ,	καὶ	ἐνέγκας	μέρος	τι	παρὰ	τοὺς
<b>wife</b>	<b>his</b>	<b>And</b>	<b>brought</b>	<b>part</b>	<b>a certain</b>	<b>it at</b>	G3588
G1135	G846	G2532	G5342	G3313	G5100	G3844	
πόδας	τῶν	ἀποστόλων	ἔθηκεν				
<b>feet</b>	G3588	<b>the apostles</b>	<b>and laid</b>				
G4228		G652	G5087				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 4:37** (Parallel theme): Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.