

Observations and Lessons from...

Barnabas

“a good man,
full of the Holy Spirit
and of faith”

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible is a Perfect guide for making one acceptable before God!

- a. It has extremely clear instructions/commands!*
- b. The Bible is written on a level so that anyone can understand it.*
- c. Its instructions for Godliness are very comprehensible.*

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible is a Perfect guide for making one acceptable before God!
 - a. *It has extremely clear instructions/commands!*
 - b. *The Bible is written on a level so that anyone can understand it.*
 - c. *Its instructions for Godliness are very comprehensible.*

2. Another one of the fantastic teaching characteristic of the Bible are the numerous Examples!!
 - a. *Many Examples of what NOT to be Like!*
 - b. *Many Example of what TO be Like!*

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible is a Perfect guide for making one acceptable before God!
 - a. *It has extremely clear instructions/commands!*
 - b. *The Bible is written on a level so that anyone can understand it.*
 - c. *Its instructions for Godliness are very comprehensible.*

2. Another one of the fantastic teaching characteristic of the Bible are the numerous Examples!!
 - a. *Many Examples of what NOT to be Like!*
 - b. *Many Example of what TO be Like!*

3. There are some Excellent examples that really stand out...
Christ - 1 Pet 2:21, Jn 13:15, Luke 9:23ff
Paul - Phil 3:17; those of Hebrews 11, many of those in the NT

INTRODUCTION:

4. Another of these outstanding examples that we often overlooked is: **BARNABAS!**

INTRODUCTION:

4. Another of these outstanding examples that we often overlooked is: **BARNABAS!**

5. We want to examine Barnabas and make the following observations...
 - a. *Overview of Barnabas*
 - *What makes him one of these “Outstanding Examples”;*
Why should we study him??
 - *Do we really know enough about him?*

 - b. *What about Barnabas makes him such a good example?*

I. Overview of Barnabas

A. We have a good deal of information about Barnabas

- *Acts 4 -15* - covers ~ 9 events that involve Barnabas

B. Barnabas is a “God Approved” Example!

Acts 11:24 - “...for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.”

- **Good** - (Vine) Describes that which, being good in character or constitution, is beneficial in its effect; morally honorable, pleasing to God, therefore beneficial
- **Full** - (Thayer) Filled up, covered in every part, thoroughly permeated.
- **Holy Spirit** - Spiritual Gifts/Word of God
- **Faith** - Beliefs & Convictions

I. Overview of Barnabas

C. We also want to be “God Approved”!!

- 1. All going to stand before God in Judgment! 2 Cor 5:9-11*
- 2. Some will hear... “department from me you who practice lawlessness” Mt 7:23, 25:41,45-46, Lk 13:27*
- 3. What we want to hear is... “you were a good person, full of the Holy Spirit and of Faith”*
- 4. Follow Barnabas’ example, and then we may hear this!!*

D. What attributes is Barnabas possess that deserved a wonderful appraisal from God....

so we can do the same!

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

A. Acts 4:36-37

1. Background:

- *First Introduced*
- *In Jerusalem*
- *Needy brethren*

Text...

³⁶ And Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the Apostles (which translated means, Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the Apostles feet.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

A. Acts 4:36-37

1. Background:

- *First Introduced*
- *In Jerusalem*
- *Needy brethren*

2. Observations:

✓ *Uplifting & Encouraging*

- *Thayer - Son of Exhortation*
- *“Put into Courage” all!*

Text...

³⁶ And Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the Apostles (which translated means, Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the Apostles feet.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

A. Acts 4:36-37

1. Background:

- *First Introduced*
- *In Jerusalem*
- *Needy brethren*

2. Observations:

✓ *Uplifting & Encouraging*

- *Thayer - Son of Exhortation*
- *“Put into Courage” all!*

✓ *Generous, not materialistic*

Text...

³⁶ And Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the Apostles (which translated means, Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the Apostles feet.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

B. Acts 9:26-27

1. Background:

- *Following Saul's conversion*
- *In Jerusalem w/ Persecution*
- *Saul, a KNOWN Killer!*

Text...

²⁶ And when he had come to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples; and they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

B. Acts 9:26-27

1. Background:

- *Following Saul's conversion*
- *In Jerusalem w/ Persecution*
- *Saul, a KNOWN Killer!*

2. Observations:

✓ **BRAVE!!**

✓ **Forgiving!**

✓ **Not a Respector of
Persons!**

Text...

²⁶ And when he had come to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples; and they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

C. Acts 11:22

Text...

1. Background:

- *Gospel has just been opened to the Gentiles.*
- *Church at Jerusalem is very curious & perhaps wary!*

²² And the news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

C. Acts 11:22

Text...

1. Background:

- *Gospel has just been opened to the Gentiles.*
- *Church at Jerusalem is very curious & perhaps wary!*

²² And the news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch.

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Worker in the Church!!*
- ✓ *He was their best man - Responsible & Reliable*

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

D. Acts 11:23-26

1. Background:

- Arrived in Antioch, a church of new Christians!!

Text...

²³ Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord: ²⁵ And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it came about that for an entire year they met with the church, and taught considerable numbers;

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

D. Acts 11:23-26

1. Background:

- Arrived in Antioch, a church of new Christians!!

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Spiritual Things brought him Joy!*

Text...

²³ Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.²⁵ And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it came about that for an entire year they met with the church, and taught considerable numbers;

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

D. Acts 11:23-26

1. Background:

- Arrived in Antioch, a church of new Christians!!

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Spiritual Things brought him Joy!*
- ✓ *He Encouraged...Gentiles!*

Text...

²³ Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord: ²⁵ And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it came about that for an entire year they met with the church, and taught considerable numbers;

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

D. Acts 11:23-26

1. Background:

- Arrived in Antioch, a church of new Christians!!

2. Observations:

- ✓ **Spiritual Things brought him Joy!**
- ✓ **He Encouraged...Gentiles!**
- ✓ **He Got Results!**

Text...

²³ Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord ²⁵ And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it came about that for an entire year they met with the church, and taught considerable numbers;

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

D. Acts 11:23-26

1. Background:

- Arrived in Antioch, a church of new Christians!!

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Spiritual Things brought him Joy!*
- ✓ *He Encouraged...Gentiles!*
- ✓ *He Got Results!*
- ✓ *He Involved Others!*

Text...

²³ Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord: ²⁵ And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it came about that for an entire year they met with the church, and taught considerable numbers;

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

D. Acts 11:23-26

1. Background:

- Arrived in Antioch, a church of new Christians!!

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Spiritual Things brought him Joy!*
- ✓ *He Encouraged...Gentiles!*
- ✓ *He Got Results!*
- ✓ *He Involved Others!*
- ✓ *Was a Dedicated Worker!*

Text...

²³ Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord: ²⁵ And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it came about that for an entire year they met with the church, and taught considerable numbers;

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

E. Acts 11:29-30

1. Background:

- *In Antioch*
- *Famine was going to come*
- *Brethren in Antioch were sending relief to Judea*

Text...

²⁹each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. ³⁰ And this they did, sending it in the charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

E. Acts 11:29-30

1. Background:

- *In Antioch*
- *Famine was going to come*
- *Brethren in Antioch were sending relief to Judea*

2. Observations:

✓ *Was Trustworthy!*

Text...

29each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. 30 And this they did, sending it in the charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

F. Acts 12:25-13:3

1. Background:

- *Returned to Antioch after delivering contribution.*

Text...

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they fulfilled their mission, taking along with them John, who was also called Mark. ...² And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”³ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

F. Acts 12:25-13:3

1. Background:

- *Returned to Antioch after delivering contribution.*

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Completed the Mission*

Text...

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they fulfilled their mission, taking along with them John, who was also called Mark. ...² And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”³ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

F. Acts 12:25-13:3

1. Background:

- *Returned to Antioch after delivering contribution.*

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Completed the Mission*
- ✓ *Taught His Family*
 - *Col 4:10 - Cousin*
- ✓ *Brought Help & taught the Young in Faith!*

Text...

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they fulfilled their mission, taking along with them John, who was also called Mark. ...² And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”³ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

F. Acts 12:25-13:3

1. Background:

- *Returned to Antioch after delivering contribution.*

2. Observations:

✓ *Completed the Mission*

✓ *Taught His Family*

- *Col 4:10 - Cousin*

✓ *Brought Help & taught the Young in Faith!*

✓ *Useable & Obedient to God!!*

Text...

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they fulfilled their mission, taking along with them John, who was also called Mark. ...² And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."³ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

G. Acts 13:43, 46

1. Background:

- *On the 1st Teaching Journey in Antioch Pisidia*

Text...

⁴³ Now when the meeting of the synagogue had broken up, many of the Jews and of the God-fearing proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, were urging them to continue in the grace of God. ⁴⁶ And Paul and Barnabas spoke boldly and said, “It was necessary the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

G. Acts 13:43, 46

1. Background:

- *On the 1st Teaching Journey in Antioch Pisidia*

2. Observations:

✓ **HUMBLE!!**

- *Paul was leading-he's a "chosen instrument" to the Gentiles! Acts 9:15*
- *Barnabas now supports v13*

Text...

43 Now when the meeting of the synagogue had broken up, many of the Jews and of the God-fearing proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, were urging them to continue in the grace of God. 46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke boldly and said, "It was necessary the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

G. Acts 13:43, 46

1. Background:

- *On the 1st Teaching Journey in Antioch Pisidia*

2. Observations:

✓ **HUMBLE!!**

- *Paul was leading-he's a "chosen instrument" to the Gentiles! Acts 9:15*
- *Barnabas now supports v13*

✓ **Bold in Teaching the Gospel!**

Text...

43 Now when the meeting of the synagogue had broken up, many of the Jews and of the God-fearing proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, were urging them to continue in the grace of God. 46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke boldly and said, "It was necessary the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

H. Acts 15:1-2

1. Background:

- *Back in Antioch, False Teachers have arrived!!*

Text...

¹ And some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you can not be saved.” ² And when Paul and Barnabas had great dissension and debate with them, the brethren determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain other of them should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this issue.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

H. Acts 15:1-2

1. Background:

- *Back in Antioch, False Teachers have arrived!!*

2. Observations:

- ✓ **DID NOT Tolerate False Teaching and Stood Against them!**

Text...

¹ And some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you can not be saved.”² And when Paul and Barnabas had great dissension and debate with them, the brethren determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain other of them should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this issue.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

I. Galatians 2:11-13

1. Background:

- *An account of events in Antioch, some time after the Jerusalem trip!!*

Text...

¹¹ But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹² For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision. ¹³ And the rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

I. Galatians 2:11-13

Text...

1. Background:

- *An account of events in Antioch, some time after the Jerusalem trip!!*

2. Observations:

✓ He Made Mistakes, but Corrected!

- *This was Wrong*
- *This was not his Normal behavior*
- *Later, He Taught Gentiles on Cyprus!*

¹¹ But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹² For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision. ¹³ And the rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

J. Acts 15:36-39

1. Background:

- *Just Prior to a 2nd Preaching trip with Paul*

Text...

³⁶ And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” ³⁷ And Barnabas was desirous of taking John, called Mark, along with them also. ³⁸ But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ And there arose such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

J. Acts 15:36-39

1. Background:

- *Just Prior to a 2nd Preaching trip with Paul*

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Was Ready to continue the work!*

Text...

³⁶ And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” ³⁷ And Barnabas was desirous of taking John, called Mark, along with them also. ³⁸ But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ And there arose such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

J. Acts 15:36-39

1. Background:

- *Just Prior to a 2nd Preaching trip with Paul*

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Was Ready to continue the work!*
- ✓ *Forgiving & Did not hold ones past against them*

Text...

³⁶ And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” ³⁷ And Barnabas was desirous of taking John, called Mark, along with them also. ³⁸ But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ And there arose such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

J. Acts 15:36-39

1. Background:

- *Just Prior to a 2nd Preaching trip with Paul*

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Was Ready to continue the work!*
- ✓ *Forgiving & Did not hold ones past against them*
- ✓ *Firmly Convicted!*

Text...

³⁶ And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” ³⁷ And Barnabas was desirous of taking John, called Mark, along with them also. ³⁸ But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ And there arose such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

II. Observations and Lessons from Barnabas...

J. Acts 15:36-39

1. Background:

- *Just Prior to a 2nd Preaching trip with Paul*

2. Observations:

- ✓ *Was Ready to continue the work!*
- ✓ *Forgiving & Did not hold ones past against them*
- ✓ *Firmly Convicted!*
- ✓ *Continued the work*

Text...

³⁶ And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” ³⁷ And Barnabas was desirous of taking John, called Mark, along with them also. ³⁸ But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ And there arose such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

CONCLUSION:

CONCLUSION:

Barnabas was... “a Good man, full of the Holy Spirit and the Faith”!

How do WE Compare?

CONCLUSION:

1. *Uplifting & Encouraging*
2. *Generous, not materialistic*
3. *BRAVE!!*
4. *Forgiving!*
5. *Not a Respector of Persons!*
6. *Hard & Dedicated Worker in the Church!!*
7. *Responsible & Reliable*
8. *Spiritual Things brought him Joy!*
9. *He Got Results!*
10. *He Involved Others!*
11. *Was Trustworthy!*
12. *Completed Mission*
13. *Taught His Family*
14. *Brought Help and taught the Young in faith!*
15. *Obedient to God!!*
16. *HUMBLE!!*
17. *DID NOT Tolerate False Teaching and Stood Against!*
18. *He Made Mistakes but Corrected!*
19. *Was Ready to continue the work!*
20. *Did not hold ones past against them*
21. *Firmly Convicted!*
22. *Problems did not stop him*

CONCLUSION:

- ✓ *Uplifting & Encouraging*
 - ✓ *Generous, not materialistic*
 - ✓ *BRAVE!!*
 - ✓ *Forgiving!*
 - ✓ *Not a Respector of Persons!*
 - ✓ *Humble & Dedicated Worker in the Church!!*
 - ✓ *Responsible & Reliable*
 - ✓ *Spiritual Things brought him Joy!*
 - ✓ *He Got Results!*
 - ✓ *He Involved Others!*
 - ✓ *Was Trustworthy!*
 - ✓ *Completed Mission*
 - ✓ *Taught His Family*
 - ✓ *Brought Help and taught the*
 - ✓ *Obedient to God!!*
 - ✓ *HUMBLE!!*
 - ✓ *DID NOT Tolerate False Teaching and Stood Against!*
 - ✓ *He Made Mistakes but Corrected*
 - ✓ *Was Ready to continue the*
 - ✓ *Did not hold ones past against them*
 - ✓ *Firmly Convicted!*
 - ✓ *Problems did not stop him*
- How do WE Compare to this List?**
- If we want the Lord to say of us...**
- “we were a good person, full of the Holy Spirit & Faith”**
- we must make these 22 characteristics part of our Character!**

CONCLUSION:

1. Our Bible is full of Great Examples of Godly Men & Women!
2. One that is Especially Good is the Example of Barnabas, whom God said was:

“...was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.”
3. The Reason for this Great Assessment was that he has some Great Christians Characteristics & Qualities!
4. We need more Christians like him today!!