

## Barnabas, Son Of Exhortation

Acts 11:19-26

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### Who Was Barnabas?

Acts 11:19-26 – Barnabas was a “good man” – Impressive!

Acts 4:36 – “Son of consolation” *paraklesis* (consolation, KJV; encouragement, NKJV).

- Definition: “A calling near, summons ... imploration, exhortation, admonition, encouragement ... consolation, comfort, solace ... that which affords comfort or refreshment ... persuasive discourse ... instructive ... powerful hortatory discourse” (Thayer).
- Of Barnabas: “a man gifted in teaching, admonishing, consoling” (Thayer).

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### Who Was Barnabas?

- Important ideas in “consolation” (KJV) include:
  - Exhortation – (encouragement). Hebrews 6:18
  - Comfort – Alleviation of grief; Cheering and supporting influence. 2 Corinthians 1:6-7
  - Persuasive discourse. Acts 13:15
- **What was it about Barnabas that made him such a source of comfort and encouragement to his brethren?**

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**What was it about Barnabas that made him such a source of comfort and encouragement to his brethren?**

### ➤ **Barnabas Was Spiritually Mature. Galatians 6:1**

- He Was Full Of The Holy Spirit. Acts 11:24; cf. Ephesians 5:18.
- Non-miraculous. cf. Luke 1:15 (cf. John 10:41)
- Led by the Spirit. Galatians 5:16, 18
- Fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-25
- cf. Acts 6:3 – See wisdom and reputation.

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**What was it about Barnabas that made him such a source of comfort and encouragement to his brethren?**

- **Barnabas Was Full Of Faith. Acts 11:24**
  - Believed in what he was doing! Hebrews 11:6
  - His faith influenced others! Acts 11:24
  - Those with stronger faith bear responsibility to strengthen the weak. Romans 15:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:14.

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**What was it about Barnabas that made him such a source of comfort and encouragement to his brethren?**

### ➤ **Barnabas Set Many Godly Examples.**

#### **An Example In Giving:**

- Of his possessions. Acts 4:36-37. (cf. Our giving 2 Corinthians 9:6-8).
- Of his time/energy. Acts 11:22, 26; Acts 13-14; (1 Corinthians 9:6; cf. Use of ours! Ephesians 5:15ff).

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**An Example In Trustworthiness.** Acts 11:22-23, 30; 13:2; 15:2.

- Time and again, when a work needed to be accomplished, Barnabas was the man!
- cf. Acts 14:14 – He was “*one sent.*” He could be trusted!
- Philippians 2:21-22 – Aptly apply to Barnabas! Let us follow this example!

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**An Example In Promoting Unity Among Brethren – Acts 9:26-28; 11:19-23.**

- Acts 9:26-28 – Used truth to achieve it.
- Acts 11:19-23 – Taught gospel to secure it.
- Acts 15:1-2 – Would not compromise truth for peace/unity/fellowship. (cf. Galatians 2:13)
- Acts 15:36-39 – Would go separate ways over a matter of judgment rather than cause lasting damage (cf. 1 Corinthians 9:6; Colossians 4:10).

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➤ **Barnabas Set Many Godly Examples.**

**An Example Of Repentance. Galatians 2:13; 1 Corinthian 9:6.**

- Wasn't sinless, but was a humble man!
- 1 Corinthians 9:6 – Clearly, he repented, or Paul would not have commended his conduct on this later occasion!

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What was it about Barnabas that made him such a source of comfort and encouragement to his brethren?

➤ **Barnabas Taught Others.**

**He Exhorted People With The Word Of God. Acts 13:5-12; 15:35.**

- Strength of our exhorting must be our message! 2 Timothy 4:2

**How He Used The Word Of God To Exhort:**

- Grounded new saints. Acts 11:22ff; 13:43.
- With boldness. Acts 13:46.
- With persistence. Acts 13:50-51.
- Defense of the truth. Acts 15:1-2.
- What a good pattern for us to follow!

### Barnabas, Son Of Consolation

**Conclusion:**

1. Encouragement, comfort and persuasion.
  - These are the hallmarks of consolation.
2. He gave these to others through his **mature faith**, his **examples**, and by **teaching** the gospel to others.
3. When these qualities are put into our lives, we will also be “*sons of consolation.*”