“Barnabas – A Good Man”

Acts 11:24
Those who were scattered abroad during the time of persecution that arose at the death of Steven traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, but they preached only to the Jews at first.

After a time, some of the men began preaching to the Gentiles also. The 1st place where they did so was in Antioch of Syria.

The report of this success came to the ears of the church back in Jerusalem, so the brethren there sent Barnabas to Antioch.

When he arrived and saw the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged all the new converts to remain faithful.

But notice what Luke records concerning the character of Barnabas in verse 24

“...he was a good man”. 
God (in His written word) thought enough about Barnabas to describe him as a “good man”.

- How would you like for God to say that said about you?
- What can we see in the scriptures that would suggest why it is that God saw fit to call him “good”?
- What qualities within Barnabas should we seek to emulate?
Barnabas – A Good Man

- Acts 4:32-37 – The early subjects in the kingdom of Christ had a feeling of love and generosity toward one another.
- Barnabas was willing to make material sacrifices!
- Barnabas was very generous!
Barnabas – A Good Man

- “The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself.” (Proverbs 11:25)
- “He who has a generous eye will be blessed, For he gives of his bread to the poor.” (Proverbs 22:9)
- “But a generous man devises generous things, And by generosity he shall stand.” (Isaiah 32:8)
- Barnabas made sacrifices, and was generous with his charitable deeds!
Barnabas – A Good Man

- Acts 4:36 – The apostles saw that Barnabas was an encourager!
  - 1 Thessalonians 3:2 “and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith” (NKJV)
  - 1 Thessalonians 3:2 “and we sent Timothy, our brother and God’s coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith” (ESV)
  - 1 Thessalonians 3:2 “and sent Timothy, our brother and God's minister in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith” (ASV)
Barnabas – A Good Man

- Acts 9:26-28 – Barnabas sought to strengthen his brother’s reputation!
- Acts 15:36-39 – Barnabas was willing to help John Mark grow!
- Barnabas was dependable, trustworthy, and an active participant in the work of the Lord (Acts 11:22-23, 29-30, 12:25)
Barnabas was willing to teach

- Acts 13:1 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
- Acts 13:7 “who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God.”
- Acts 13:43 “Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.”
- Acts 13:46 “Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.”
Barnabas was willing to teach

- Barnabas was willing to teach - Acts 14:12, 15:12, 15:35, 36
- Barnabas was very passionate about the work of the Lord – Acts 13:46, 14:14, 15:2, 15:39
Barnabas – A Good Man

- “This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.” Acts 11:30 (NKJV)
- “And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their ministry, and they also took with them John whose surname was Mark.” Acts 12:25 (NKJV)
- “As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Acts 13:2 (NKJV)
- “…who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God.” Acts 13:7 (NKJV)
Barnabas – Was willing to yield

- “Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.” Acts 13:43 (NKJV)
- “Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.” Acts 13:46 (NKJV)
- “But the Jews stirred up the devout and prominent women and the chief men of the city, raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region.” Acts 13:50
- “And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.” Acts 14:12 (NKJV)
Barnabas – A Good Man

**Attributes of Barnabas...**
- He was willing to make great sacrifices
- He was very generous
- He was an encourager
- He was an active, dependable worker
- He was a teacher
- He was passionate about the Lord’s work
- He was willing to yield

- He was not perfect – Galatians 2:11-13
“Barnabas – A Good Man”

Acts 11:24