

BARNABAS: WILLING TO STRAY **Galatians 2:11-14**

Today we'll note that even Barnabas, for a brief time, strayed from the truth

I. BARNABAS' PAST

- A. WILLING TO GIVE - Acts 4:33-37
- B. WILLING TO SPONSOR - Acts 9:26-30
- C. WILLING TO MOVE - Acts 11:19-26
- D. WILLING TO DECREASE - Acts 13:1-16
- E. WILLING TO STAND - Acts 15:1-2, 36-39

II. BARNABAS' PROBLEMS

- A. HE'S HOODWINKED (13b)
 - 1. He was carried away
 - 2. The idea is that of being fooled by impressive misrepresentation
 - 3. The false teaching is that though Gentiles need not keep the Law (as decided by the Jerusalem Council), the Jews still needed to do so.
- B. HE'S HYPOCRITICAL (13c)
 - 1. Beginning to believe its ok to be two-faced
 - 2. Saying one thing but doing another
 - 3. Being inconsistent and thereby making it hard to know what he truly believes
- C. HE'S POPULAR (13a)
 - 1. With Peter who has separated from the Gentiles
 - 2. With the rest of the Jews who have separated from the Gentiles
- D. HE'S SUSCEPTIBLE (11-12)
 - Being easily influenced by Peter
 - 1. To one whom he respects
 - 2. To one who is inconsistent (12a)
 - 3. To one who is fearful (12b)
 - 4. To one who is condemned (11b)

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III. BARNABAS' PARTNER

- Note the actions of Paul

A. OPPOSED THE ERRANT (11b AND 14b)

1. Publicly
 - To his face (11b) and in the presence of all (14b)
2. Forcefully: Peter stood condemned

B. IDENTIFIED THE ERROR (14a)

1. They were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel
2. What Peter was a part of was inconsistent with the good news of the gospel

C. EXPOSED THE ERRANT (14c)

- For compelling compliance to an unbiblical standard he didn't uphold

IV. BARNABAS' PRESCRIPTIONS

- Some lessons to be learned

A. BEWARE

1. Good men can make bad decisions
2. Following without thinking often results in straying
3. Actions have consequences: A bad example can be as powerful as a good one

B. BE WISE

1. Pray for discerning people to protect you
2. Oppose the guilty even if you must do it alone
3. Quickly call out error before it does more damage
4. Never tolerate anything that threatens the integrity of the gospel

CONCLUSION:

Barnabas strayed because he followed one who was following falsehood

Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. For I was very glad when brethren came and bore witness to your truth, *that is*, how you are walking in truth. I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth. – III John 2-4

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