

## "But Barnabas"

*A quiet man*

*Three strong stands*

*One changed Church*

Acts 9, 11, 15

Father's Day, June 21, 2015

*Much of the book of Acts and the history of the Christian church may well turn with one "quieter" disciple.*

Paul's heavenly call was supported by two men on earth:

- Annanias 9:10-18
- Barnabas 9:26-30

## BARNABAS' THREE GREAT

## STANDS

### STANDS UP **FOR PAUL**

ACTS 9:26-30

<sup>26</sup> When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. <sup>27</sup> But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus. <sup>28</sup> So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.

His defending and partnering with Paul may have done as much for the early church as any human decision.

**STOOD UP FOR GENTILE CONVERSION** 11:22-26

<sup>22</sup> News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. <sup>23</sup> When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. <sup>24</sup> He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

As a "weighty" leader, he was given great authority to **DISCERN** and **ACT** on a critical matter

### STOOD UP **TO PAUL**

ACTS 15:16-31

<sup>36</sup> Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." <sup>37</sup> Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with

them, <sup>38</sup> but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. <sup>39</sup> They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.

A **DEVELOPING DISCIPLE** was worth a determined **DISPUTE** with the **PAUL HIMSELF**

#### **A SPIN ON THIS “DISPUTE”**

- A. God used it
- B. Paul was right to be masses driven.
- C. Barnabas was right to be mentor driven.
- D. The gospel won!

#### **Three themes from Barnabas this Father’s Day**

Danger requires courage not compromise.  
Discernment is crucial in times of change.  
Deep conviction for fledgling Christian faith.