

## BARNABAS, THE ENCOURAGER: part 2

I Continue Today On This Concept Of Encouragement As It Is Being Revealed From The New Testament:

BARNABAS "THE ENCOURAGER" Was Sent By The Apostles In Jerusalem To Antioch (in Turkey) To Assist With A Revival Going On There Among The Greeks. Many Repented And Received The Gospel. (Acts 11:23-26).

So When BARNABAS Had Come And Seen The Grace Of GOD Poured Out Upon These Non-Jews, He ENCOURAGED THEM "That With Purpose Of Heart They Should Cleave Unto THE LORD."

"For He (Barnabas) Was A Good Man, And Full Of The HOLY SPIRIT And Of FAITH. And Much People Were ADDED UNTO THE LORD."

THEN BARNABAS Went To Tarsus (SAUL'S Home Town) In Search Of SAUL (as he was still called by the Church in those early days of his ministry) BARNABAS Found Saul And Brought Him Back To Antioch. BARNABAS AND SAUL Taught There For "A Whole Year They Assembled Themselves With The Church And Taught Much People. AND THE DISCIPLES WERE CALLED CHRISTIANS FIRST IN ANTIOCH."

LOVE MULTIPLIED By The Teachings Of BARNABAS And Saul. ENCOURAGEMENT Built Up The Believers And They Dared To Love One Another In JESUS.

BARNABAS And Saul Transported Much Needed Supplies To The Poor Christians In Jerusalem. (Acts 11:30).

King Herod, In Jerusalem Had Killed The Apostle JAMES, Brother Of John, With A Sword. And Put PETER In Prison Under The Guard Of 16 Roman Soldiers, But An Angel Freed And Delivered Him Out Of There. (Acts 12)

From Jerusalem BARNABAS Took Saul And JOHN MARK To Antioch. Then THE HOLY SPIRIT Sent Them To Syria and Cyprus To Minister In These Areas.

Then On They Traveled To Paphos (in Cyprus) Where They Confronted A Jewish Sorcerer/False Prophet Named Barjesus Who Joined To A Roman Proconsul. (read Acts Chapter 13).

This Roman "Sergius Paulus" Desired BARNABAS And Saul To Speak The WORD OF GOD To Him, So He Could Hear It.

But The Sorcerer Stopped Them From Speaking The GOSPEL To Him.

"THEN SAUL, (Who Is Called Paul,) FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, Set His Eyes On Him," Saul Spoke Correction And Temporary Blindness On This Evil Sorcerer.

BUT THE ROMAN BELIEVED IN JESUS, By The Teachings Of BARNABAS.

"Now When PAUL And His Company Sailed Away From Paphos (Cyprus) They Came To Perga (Pagan Tribes in Asia Minor) In Pamphylia: AND JOHN MARK DEPARTING FROM THEM RETURNED TO JERUSALEM."

Here On Paul's Mission, Something Happened To DISCOURAGE JOHN MARK From Continuing With Paul. I Suspect That PAUL Was So Driven In Zeal That He Lacked The Ability To ENCOURAGE, LIKE BARNABAS Had. So Paul Took His Team Back To Antioch. HERE, The Elders Of The Synagogue Invite PAUL To Comfort And Exhort The Saints (perhaps they had Questions Why John Mark Left

For Jerusalem).

PAUL Spoke At Length To The Jews, And When They Dissolved, Many Still Followed PAUL And BARNABAS, Who Convinced Them To Continue IN THE GRACE OF GOD.

The Non-Jews Wanted To Hear, So Most Of The Multitudes Of The CITY Came To PAUL And BARNABAS. (But The Jews Were Envious, And They Drove Paul And Barnabas Out Of Their Coastal Region.)

From There They Travel To ICONIUM (City Of Idol Images). The Disciples That Were There Were Also Filled With JOY And The HOLY SPIRIT. (read Acts 14).

By The HOLY SPIRIT And The ENCOURAGEMENT, There Was Much JOY And Both Greeks And Jews Believed. There Were Many Signs And Wonders Performed.

From There They Travel To LYSTRA, And DERBY, Cities Of LYCAONIA And Surrounding Region Healing A Man Crippled From The Womb, Who Never Had Walked Before.

But After This Miracle, BARNABAS And Paul Are Called gods. BARNABAS Was Called "Jupiter" — Zeus, Jove = The Supreme deity of the Greeks. (They Honoring BARNABAS Above Paul). And PAUL They Called "Mercurius" Hermes=The Name Of The Messenger, Because PAUL Was The Chief Speaker.

But What Was It, About BARNABAS? That He Would Be Exalted Above PAUL? I Believe It Was His SPIRIT OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND JOY, That The GREEKS Felt They Needed Most! PAUL Could Be Long Winded At Times, And Usually ENCOURAGEMENT Is What People Need.

The Greek Priest Of Jupiter Brought Oxen And Garlands To Sacrifice To BARNABAS And PAUL. But They Tore Their Clothes And Refused Their Worship. But PAUL Preached JESUS To Them. The LIVING GOD OF HEAVEN, WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH.

Then The Jews Stoned PAUL And Drag Him Out Of The City, And Left Him For Dead. The Disciples Prayed Over PAUL And He ROSE Up Again. (Acts 14:19-20).