

# **“A Man Called 'Barnabas'”**

## **Acts 4:32-37**

### Introduction

- I. Have you ever been given a nickname
- II. In the first century, there was a man named Joses, that the apostles started calling “Barnabas”.
- III. Barnabas means “son of consolation”, which indicates he was a great comforter and one who encouraged others.

### Discussion

- I. Barnabas was committed to the cause of Christ (Acts 4:32-37).
  - A. He was not controlled by his possessions (Matt. 6:21).
  - B. He did not love only in word (1 John 2:18).
  - C. He could not be called a man who would “rob” God (Mal. 3:8-10).
- II. Barnabas lived as his name suggested.
  - A. He vouched for Saul/Paul when others distrusted (Acts 9:26-27).
  - B. He exhorted the church in Antioch (Acts 11:19-24).
  - C. Barnabas gave encouragement and support similar to Aaron and Hur (Exo. 17:10-12; 1 Thess. 5:11).
- III. Barnabas forgave when the need arose.
  - A. At one time, John Mark left Paul and others (Acts 13:13).
  - B. Later, Barnabas showed that he was willing to forgive and put the past behind him (Acts 15:36-41).
  - C. Later, Paul came to trust John Mark again (2 Tim. 4:11; what would have happened to Paul and John Mark had Barnabas not vouched for them).

### Discussion

- I. What would people choose for your nickname?
- II. Barnabas was certainly the proper designation for Joses.