

Barnabas Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Barnabas was apparently well-to-do but also very generous. Why are some rich people involved in benevolence?

Why, do you think, Barnabas was able to convince the other Christians that Paul was genuine?

What aspects of the history of Israel might have made them think that God's favor was only for them?

What was the LORD's purpose in choosing Abraham? (Genesis 12:3)

What did the gift by the Antioch Christians for relief of the Jerusalem Christians do for their relationship?

The church at Antioch apparently heard an audible voice telling them to set apart Paul and Barnabas for a mission. Does that make an audible voice necessary for future calls?

Why do you suppose the Lord set up a "power encounter" with Elymas, the Jewish sorcerer?

What were the synagogue rulers in Antioch of Pisidia likely expecting from Paul that caused them to invite him to speak?

Might they have been surprised that he preached Christ?

Was it remarkable that they asked to hear more?

Might it have been a ruse to trap him?

What does this situation tell us about the subtlety of our spiritual enemy?

In speaking harshly to those who rejected his message, was Paul being hateful or was it loving?

Would it have been easy for Paul to call off the whole mission trip after being stoned?

If he had been responsible to a board of directors, what would they likely have said?

Why did Paul react so strongly to the teachers who insisted that circumcision was necessary for salvation?

If we consider either Paul or Barnabas to be at fault for their split, what are we forgetting about God?

Is it good to give young believers, like John Mark, a second chance?

Did John Mark's experience of failure likely influence his future service?

Was Barnabas concerned about getting credit for what he did?