

DEMAS LOVED THE WORLD.

10/2/2022 AM

INTRO.:

A. The Bible is filled with characters. (Some good; some bad). Several individuals are named as being beneficial to the evangelistic efforts.

1. Demas is one of the most recognizable names in the entire Bible.
2. Paul's companions experienced daily trials as did Paul.
 - 1) They also were persecuted as they were doing the Lord's work (**Acts 16:19-24**).
 - 2) Persecution came to the obedient (**1 Thessalonians 1:6**).
 - 3) Demas would not have escaped the mistreatments.

B. Demas gave himself over to a love affair that would be his downfall.

DISCUSSION: IN THIS LESSON WE OBSERVE...

I. WHO WAS DEMAS?

A. Some say Demas is hard to discuss because so little is said about him.

1. Mentioned *only three times*. (YET - Speaks volumes.)

B. Some things we can know without being told.

1. **First**, we can say that he was a Christian.
 - 1) With Paul on the missionary journeys.
 - 2) He was involved in the work of evangelism.
2. He was interested in the souls of mankind.

C. Let's note these verses:

1. **Colossians 4:14**.
2. **Philemon 24**.
 - 1) Numbered with other **faithful workers with Paul**.
 - 2) **FELLOWLABOURERS** = (sunergos) companion in labour, (fellow-helper).
 - a. Denoting the unity of mind and labour involved in converting souls.
 - b. **1 Corinthians 3:9**.
3. **2 Timothy 4:10**.
 - 1) Note the context: **2 Timothy 4:6-9**.
 - a. Paul was willing "**to be offered**."
 - b. Having reference to the sacrifice of his life (**Philippians 2:17**).
 - 2) Christians will either fight or surrender under pressure.
 - 3) When Demas forsook Paul, he forsook the Lord.

D. His heart was turned to the world (Proverbs 4:23**).**

1. FORSAKEN = to leave behind... or to desert: **RWP** says, "willful desertion."
2. To forsake is to abandon (**Luke 11:23**; **Pro. 28:4**).

E. Who was Demas?

1. A man who left his first love (**Revelation 2:4**).
 - 1) Meaning he had left his love for the Lord.
 - 2) He did not love what Christianity provided.
 - 3) He stopped loving the Lord (**John 14:15**; **1 John 2:5**).
 - 4) Paul must have been astonished at this desertion (**Galatians 1:6**).
2. Demas would not endure hardships. (**2 Timothy 4:5**; **James 5:11**).

II. DEMAS LOVED THE WRONG THING.

A. **2 Timothy 4:10 "...having loved this present world..."**

1. He loved his physical life more than his spiritual life (**1 John 2:15-17**).
2. This love affair cost him dearly (**Matthew 16:26**).
3. Demas lost his faith (**John 5:4**)!

B. I would like to say he came to himself, repented and returned.

III. LESSONS TO BE LEARNED.

A. First: The most obvious.

1. The “once saved” doctrine falls flat when examined in **2 Timothy 4:10**.
2. Note **2 Timothy 4:3-4** “For the time will come...”

B. The world has a powerful pull.

1. What exactly pulled Demas away from the faith?
 - 1) We are not told the specifics.
2. To leave the Lord is a choice **WE make (Revelation 2:4; James 1:14)**.
3. Be prepared to overcome.
 - 1) Study, pray and ready (**Philippians 1:17**).

C. The faithful are never alone (**2 Timothy 4:16-17**).

IV. CONCLUSION.

A. We must not let our disappointments move us from the faith.

1. It might be Family, friends or brethren. (We have seen)
2. Yet we must keep standing and fighting no matter the consequences.

B. Apply **1 Corinthians 15:58** and **Revelation 2:10** to our lives.