

- I) **V10 INTRO: For Demas has forsaken me having loved this present world and has departed**
  - a) Last time, we compared Timothy and Demas, two men who were co-laborers with Paul
    - 1) We saw that Timothy remained faithful to the end, and that Demas abandoned the faith
  
- II) **PAUL CONTINUES: Writing concerning friends and foes of the ministry**
  - a) In the group of people he now mentions, some are well known and others are unknown
    - 1) **OBVIOUSLY:** This is a reminder that it is the Lord who knows us and rewards us (2:19)
    - 2) Heb 6:10 God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.
    - 3) Rev 22:12 Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work.
  
- III) **AS WE BEGIN: Paul now refers to a disciple by the name of Crescens**
  - a) **HERE:** He simply says that Crescens left for *Galatia* (highlands of Turkey)
    - 1) Crescens is an unknown disciple, but is mentioned as a leader of the church
    - 2) 2 Co 6:9 As unknown, and yet well known
  
- IV) **PAUL: Had ministered in the region of Galatia in each of his three missionary journeys**
  - a) While there, he had planted many churches, and the believers there were dear to him
    - 1) When legalists entered in to the region, Paul wrote a letter to them, correcting them
  
- V) **KEY: In the letter to the Galatians, Paul revealed the depth of his love for them**
  - a) False teachers were insisting believers must be circumcised, and Paul spoke severely
    - 1) Gal 5:12 I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off! (Castrate)
  
- VI) **IMPORTANT: This is not mean spirited or simple cruelty on the part of Paul**
  - a) **FACT:** He knew that God would ultimately take care of the situation
    - 1) Gal 5:10 He who troubles you shall bear his judgment whoever he is
  
- VII) **HE WAS SIMPLY ALLUDING TO: Something that was practiced by the cult of Cybele (Si' byl ee)**
  - a) Cybele was a nature goddess worshiped in Asia Minor
    - 1) Her priests would castrate themselves, as would her most devout followers
    - 2) **POINT:** If they think circumcision achieves God's favor, they should *do what the pagans do*
  
- VIII) **BECAUSE PAUL: Loved the Galatians, he sent a trusted church leader to minister to them**
  - a) He sent Crescens to that area to minister to them
  
- IX) **V10 TITUS: Left for Dalmatia (Croatia): Titus, unlike Crescens, is well known to us**
  - a) We have a letter to him, and he is mentioned 9 times in 2 Co and twice in the book of Galatians
    - 1) He was faithful in the things of the Lord, and Paul considered him to be *a son in the faith*
    - 2) He was a Gentile convert (Gal 2:3) and did pastoral ministry in Crete
    - 3) 2 Co 8:16 I thank God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you.
    - 4) 2 Co 8:23 As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you
  
- X) **V11 ONLY LUKE IS WITH ME: Luke was Paul's very close friend and a traveling companion**
  - a) He was a Gentile doctor, and he wrote a gospel as well as the book of Acts
    - 1) **KEY:** Paul is short on ministry help so he writes *bring Mark with you*

- I) **HERE IS A GREAT STORY OF RESTORATION:** According to Col 4:10, Mark was Barnabas' cousin
  - a) Ac 12:25 records that Mark had accompanied Paul on his first missionary journey
    - 1) Ac 13:5 uses his other name, John and mentions that John Mark was Paul's assistant
    - 2) For whatever reason, John Mark departed from them and returned to Jerusalem (Ac 13:13)
  
- II) **LATER:** Paul decided to go visit the converts that had been saved through his ministry
  - a) **WHY:** Because he desired to check up on their spiritual condition, but a problem erupted
    - 1) Ac 15:37-40 Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God
  
- III) **NOW:** (Over 20 years later) Mark is referred to as being *profitable* for Paul in the ministry
  - a) John Mark spent time with the Apostle Peter, and continued growing in faith (1 Pe 5:13)
    - 1) Eventually, he wrote the Gospel according to Mark
    - 2) He was not only restored, but he went on to be used mightily by the Lord
    - 3) Church tradition records that he was tied to several horses and dragged through the streets of Alexandria, Egypt until he was dead
  
- IV) **TYCHICUS:** A brother from the province of Asia (Ac 20:4) and is mentioned six times
  - a) We know very little of him, other than he was a faithful servant of the Lord
    - 1) Col. 4:7 Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord.
  
- V) **V13 BRING THE CLOAK:** That I left with Carpus at Troas when you come and the *books*, especially
  - a) **THESE ITEMS:** Give us insight into what Paul considered necessary and valuable
    - 1) **FIRST:** He makes a request for his cloak, an outer garment also used as a blanket
    - 2) V21 Tells us Paul was facing winter, and needed this to keep him warm
    - 3) It was very expensive, he could not buy one, and so he wanted it brought to him quickly
  
- VI) **SECOND:** He asks for his *books* and especially the *parchments*
  - a) **BOOKS:** Were papyrus rolls, most likely the OT, so he could continue studying and being fed
  - b) **PARCHMENTS:** Were made of sheep, lamb, goat, or calf membrane, and were used for writing
    - 1) The parchments may have contained Paul's letters, but were obviously useful for ministry
    - 2) This gives us insight into the fact that he planned on continuing growing in the Lord
  
- VII) **V14-16 ALEXANDER:** The coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to
  - a) **Unknown, specifically:** he lived in Rome, and made a living as a metal (idol) maker
    - 1) All of Asia Minor was saturated with idolatry
    - 2) Ps 115:4-8 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them.
      - 3) He hated Paul, and fiercely opposed him and the gospel Paul was preaching
      - 4) This made him not only Paul's enemy, but also the enemy of God

- I) **ALEXANDER: Had done Paul much harm (wrong, evil, or injury)**
  - a) It is most likely that he may have been an accuser for the prosecution at Paul's trial
    - 1) Great harm was brought on the apostle Paul by things he did and said
    - 2) Whatever part he had in the trial, the result was damaging and contributed to his death
  
- II) **KEY: He was a relentless opponent and persecutor, one who tirelessly resisted Paul's preaching**
  - a) When Paul made his defense, Alexander was there to argue against him, vigorously
    - 1) Pr 26:21 As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife.
    - 2) Pr 28:25 He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the Lord will be prospered
  
- III) **WHAT SHOULD BE DONE: About this man**
  - a) Paul lifts him to the Lord for the Lord to deal with
    - 1) Ps 62:12 For You render to each one according to his work.
    - 2) Ro 12:17-19 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved do not avenge yourselves but rather give place to wrath for it is written Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord
  
- IV) **V16-17 AT: My first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me May it not be charged against**
  - a) At his trial, not a single friend or believer supported him
    - 1) Not a single one was willing to testify on his behalf, instead, they all deserted him
    - 2) Apparently Onesiphorus (1:16) and Luke (4:11) were not in Rome when he was tried
  
- V) **REMEMBER: Paul had earlier written All those in Asia have turned away from me (1:15)**
  - a) They simply were fearful and did not want to identify with Paul
    - 1) It would seem they denied Paul, but had not denied Jesus, which gives us insight
    - 2) 2 Ti 1:8 Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God
  
- VI) **V17-18 BUT THE LORD STOOD WITH ME, AND STRENGTHENED ME: So that the message**
  - a) **KEY: Though I was abandoned by man, I have never been abandoned by God**
    - 1) Jn 16:32 Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.
    - 2) Heb 13:5-6 He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"
    - 3) Phil 4:13
  
- VII) **V17 SO THAT: The message might be preached fully through me and that all the Gentiles might**
  - a) **HE STRENGTHENED ME: That I might continue sharing His message with all who would hear**
    - 1) Gal 2:7 The gospel for the uncircumcised was committed to Paul
  
- VIII) **V17 RESULT: I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion**
  - a) **Caesar Nero: Immediate execution**
    - 1) Pr 20:2 The wrath of a king is like the roaring of a lion
  - b) **Satanic attack, bringing depression: 1 Pe 5:7**

- I) **V19-22 CONCLUSION: Various greetings**
  - a) Priscilla and Aquila: Very good friends and ministers of the gospel
  - b) Onesiphorus: 2 Ti 1:16-18
  
- II) **V20 ERASTUS: Ac 19:22 Mentioned as missionary, remained in the city of Corinth**
  
- III) **V20 NEXT: Trophimus: Ephesian minister, traveling companion:**
  - a) Interestingly, Paul does not say that Trophimus claimed his healing
    - 1) Elisha 2 Ki 13:14 Now Elisha was suffering from the illness from which he died. Jehoash king of Israel went down to see him and wept over him. "My father! My father!" he cried. "The chariots and horsemen of Israel!"
    - 2) 1 Ti. 5:23 Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.
    - 3) Phil. 2:25-27 But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow.
    - 4) Jas 5:14-15 Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven.
  
- IV) **V21 DO YOUR UTMOST: To come before winter**
  - a) Eubulus greets you, as well as Pudens, Linus, Claudia and all the brethren
    - 1) The three men's names are Latin, and may be Roman converts
    - 2) Claudia is also unknown
  
- V) **V22 THE LORD: Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Grace be with you. Amen**
  - a) **MAY THE LORD SPIRITUALLY STRENGTHEN YOU**
    - 1) **WITH HIS GRACE:** You will continue and faithfully discharge your ministry, to the end