

- I) V9- 10INTRO: Be diligent to come to me quickly; for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this
 - a) Paul now begins to conclude his letter to Timothy by making some final requests
 - 1) What is interesting is that, though he is facing execution, he focuses on other people

- II) HE DOES THIS: Because he is completely aware that the gospel produces responses
 - a) Some people will embrace the message of salvation through Jesus, and are saved
 - 1) Others completely reject it, sometimes after *outwardly* responding to it
 - 2) This is because the message calls people *to make a decision* to follow the Lord

- III) AS HE CLOSSES HIS LETTER: We see some who have embraced the Lord and continued faithfully
 - a) TRAGICALLY: We also see others who have rejected the message to their own hurt
 - 1) WE CAN: Learn lessons from both of these categories of people

- IV) AS WE BEGIN: Paul is now facing his soon execution, as he will soon be beheaded
 - a) As he awaits this, his mind is filled with memories of people who have impacted his life
 - 1) He is passing on a ministry mantle to Timothy, and wants him adequately prepared
 - 2) HE NOW: Gives Timothy insights into the spiritual condition of certain men and women

- V) V9 BEFORE HE DOES THIS: He makes a request of Timothy *Be diligent* to come to me quickly
 - a) BE DILIGENT: Do your best to come to me soon
 - 1) Writing in a cold, damp dungeon, Paul now issues a final request to his son in the faith
 - 2) Please, come see me before I die: I have been forsaken, and could use some fellowship

- VI) WHEN YOU ARE FACING THE END OF YOUR LIFE: What do you think would be your last thoughts
 - a) What do you think you would be concerned about, in your last moments of life?
 - 1) Do you think your last days would be spent on wishing you spent more time at work, or had a better job, or that you would have gotten even with that person who hurt you? Do you think you will wish that you had spent more money on a better car, or lived in a better neighborhood?
 - 2) AS FOR ME: I want to spend my last moments with people, not possessions

- VII) FOR PAUL: His last request of Timothy was that Timothy would come and see him
 - a) His last letter closes with him telling Timothy that he wants to see him, one last time
 - 1) HIS LAST REQUEST: Is for fellowship with his beloved son in the faith

- VIII) HE WANTED: To encourage his timid son one last time that he would be faithful to Jesus
 - a) He knew that *Timothy* needed encouragement, and wanted to strengthen him one last time
 - 1) Jas 5:8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.
 - 2) It would seem that Paul succeeded, in that Timothy ultimately followed his footsteps
 - 3) Heb 13:23 reads take notice that our brother Timothy has been released (from jail)

- IX) V10 FOR DEMAS HAS FORSAKEN ME: Who was this man, Demas? (Governor of the People)
 - a) Paul now mentions the name of a man that must have truly broken his heart: Demas
 - 1) KEY: In Paul's writings, Demas is mentioned twice as an assistant in the ministry
 - 2) Philemon 23-24 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings. And so do Mark, Aristarchus, *Demas* and Luke, my fellow workers.
 - 3) Col 4:14 Paul writes: Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and *Demas* send greetings.

- I) **V10 NOW PAUL WRITES:** *Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world*
 - a) Demas had likely been with Paul in Rome during Paul's first imprisonment
 - 1) **NOW:** Paul had been imprisoned a second time, and Demas had abandoned him
 - 2) This gives us insight into why Paul would write *Be diligent to come to me quickly*

- II) **DEMAS HAD ABANDONED PAUL:** When Paul needed his fellowship and encouragement most
 - a) **FORSAKEN:** Desert, to leave helpless; totally abandoned
 - 1) Paul is deeply disappointed in Demas: Demas left him completely holding the bag

- III) **WHY DID DEMAS LEAVE:** Because he *loved* (fell in love with) this present world (age)
 - a) **LOVED:** To welcome, to entertain, to be fond of, to love dearly; To be well pleased with
 - 1) Demas was in love with this *age* (period of time) and did not long *for the age to come*
 - 2) He thought this world was all there was and would ever be and fell in love with it

- IV) **DEMAS FELL IN LOVE WITH THIS PRESENT AGE:** With its pleasures and its treasures
 - a) He had an incredible *influence* for the kingdom, but *hungered* for the world
 - 1) He was the opposite of Timothy: he rejected the gospel as well as the apostle
 - 2) His hunger for this world was greater than any longing for heaven, or the Lord

- V) **DEMAS:** May be an example of a person whose heart is either rocky, or thorn infested soil
 - a) Lu 8:5-15 contains the parable of the sower, seed, and the soils
 - 1) The sower is Jesus, the seed is God's word, and the soil represents the human heart
 - 2) Rocky soil is shallow, and produces quickly but does not last
 - 3) Thorns in the soil represent seed choked out by cares, riches, and pleasures of life

- VI) **WHATEVER THE CASE MAY BE:** Though he traveled on ministry tours, he did not love Jesus
 - a) **INTERESTING:** It may be that the exposure to the world as he traveled drew him away
 - 1) He fell in love with the temporary, and had no vision for eternity
 - 2) 1 Jn 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

- VII) **ON ONE OCCASION:** Jesus Himself was tempted by Satan to forsake God and embrace the world
 - a) Lu 4:6-8 The devil said to Him All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours. And Jesus answered and said to him, Get behind Me Satan. For it is written You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve
 - b) Mt 6:24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

- VIII) **THIS GIVES US INSIGHT:** Into what Paul had written in his first letter to Timothy
 - a) Believers had to come to understand that it is more blessed to give than to receive
 - 1) 1 Ti 6:17-19 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life

- I) **CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS:** Are aware that priorities are to be spiritual in nature
 - a) We seek God first, and His kingdom and trust Him for our daily bread
 - 1) Lu 12:15 A man's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses
 - 2) Col 3:1-2 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

- II) **V8 CONTAINED A PROMISE:** To all who have loved His appearing
 - a) All who love Jesus ultimately receive a crown of righteousness
 - 1) **THIS DESIRE:** Motivates their lives because they love Jesus and desire to be with Him

- III) **SADLY:** Demas did not have a desire to be with Jesus
 - a) It may be that he is part of the company spoken of in the gospel of Matthew
 - 1) Mt 7:22-23 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

- IV) **HE DEPARTED FROM PAUL:** And turned back to the world
 - a) In doing so, he revealed that he was not a genuine believer at all
 - 1) Pr 26:11 As a dog returns to his own vomit, So a fool repeats his folly.
 - 2) 2 Pe 2:20-22 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

- V) **SADLY:** No mention is ever given concerning any restoration for him
 - a) We are left with the statement that he simply made his way to Thessalonica
 - 1) Could he have repented and been forgiven: yes, and I pray he did and was
 - 2) **YET:** We are not told that he did, so we are simply left with a very sad epitaph