



## Don't Waste Your Life! Forsaking the Footsteps of Demas

Lesson 11 • Colossians 4:14

**Colossians 4:7-18** reminds us that our ministry to others is the overflow of our relationship with Christ. 12 people are mentioned by name. Each one sought to **make their mark for eternity**. We are **following in the footsteps of those who fulfilled their ministries**, so we too can make our mark for eternity!

### A Man Who Made His Mark the Wrong Way: Demas = "Popular"

- Demas is mentioned only **three times** in the Bible, always by the Apostle Paul while he is in prison. *Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24; 2 Timothy 4:10*
- Demas is a powerful contrast to Luke with whom he is always compared to in the Bible.

Significant Comparisons between Luke & Demas	Sharp Contrast between Luke & Demas
Both are <b>only</b> mentioned 3 times in the Bible	While Luke _____ with Paul to the end, Demas _____ Paul in the end!
Both are mentioned <b>together</b> all 3 times	
Both were called " <b>fellow workers</b> " by Paul	
Both were with Paul during his <b>two imprisonments</b>	

### Don't Follow in the Footsteps of Demas ~ 2 Timothy 4:10

\_\_\_\_\_!

#### How Did Demas Fail to Make His Mark as a Co-Laborer of Paul?

*He wasted his life by loving and pursuing what this world offered more than what Christ offered in His coming kingdom!*

### Make Your Mark: Don't Waste Your Life Loving and Pursuing What This World Has to Offer!

#### How to Waste Your Life Loving and Pursuing the Wrong Things

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ that a Great Start Does Not Guarantee a Great Finish.

*Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24*

- Demas started out as a "fellow worker" of the Apostle Paul just like the rest of the team!
- Demas failed to persevere to the end like the others did.
- A great start does not guarantee a great finish: *We need to \_\_\_\_\_ in our faith to fulfill our ministry!*  
*Colossians 1:21-23; 1 John 5:4*

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ to Stay Focused on Christ and His Coming Kingdom.

*2Timothy 4:10*

- Demas became distracted by the \_\_\_\_\_ pleasures and treasures this life had to offer. *1John 2:15-16*

**Temptations in the World** *1 John 2:15-17*

- 1) The lust of the flesh
- 2) The lust of the eyes
- 3) The pride of life

**Temptations that Adam and Eve Tripped Over in the Garden** *Genesis 3:4-6*

*So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.*

**Temptations that Christ Triumphed Over in the Wilderness** *Matthew 4:1-11*

*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil...But he answered, "It is written...Jesus said to him, "Again it is written... Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written..."*

- Demas failed to trust Christ to enable him to stay focused on the eternal and not be \_\_\_\_\_ by the temporary!  
*1John 2:15-17*
  
- Stay focused on Christ: Trust His Spirit and Word to enable you to \_\_\_\_\_ the world and the things in it.  
*1John 2:17; 5:4-5; Galatians 1:4*

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ after What the World Has to Offer instead of Christ!**

*2 Timothy 4:10 takes place 3-4 years later after Colossians 4:14 and Philemon 24*

- Demas left the things of God to pursue the things of the world!
  - ✦ He left the **worker** of God – *2 Timothy 4:10*
  - ✦ He left the **work** of God – *Philemon 24*
  - ✦ He left the **will** of God – *1 John 2:17*
  - ✦ He left the **way** of God – *1 John 2:15; 5:4-5; James 4:4*

**Was Demas Saved? We Do Not Know for Sure and that Is a Sad Way to Make Your Mark!**

**What Does Demas' Desertion Teach Us?**

*Sin will take you farther than you want to go; keep you longer than you want to stay; and cost you more than you want to pay.*

- Where your heart is your life will eventually follow: *A fascination with earthly things leads to forgetfulness of eternal things!*  
*Colossians 3:1-4*

**Make Your Mark: Don't Follow in the Footsteps of Demas and Waste Your Life!**  
*Persevere in Your Faith as Your Pursue the Pleasures of Christ over the Pleasures of the World!*

*Where's your heart today? What's your "Thessalonica"? What worldly desires are distracting you from serving Christ and His people? By faith persevere in pursuing what you profess! Set your heart on where your life is hidden... in Christ and His coming kingdom!*

