

DEMAS

Demas (means “popular”)

-appears three times in the Holy Bible (Colossians 4:14, Philemon 1:24, 2 Timothy 4:10)

In Philemon, Demas is mentioned as a fellow labourer with the apostle Paul. He also sends greeting along with Paul in Colossians. In Timothy he forsakes the apostle Paul having loved this present world and departs to Thessalonica.

Demas was a fellow labourer in the ministry with Paul. So it is likely that Demas was a preacher and a great Christian. What happened? His heart turned back to Egypt having loved this present world.

The Parable of the Sower

Luke 8:5-15 and Mark 4:3-9, 14-20

4 Types of People:

The first hears the word of God, then the devil comes and takes the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

The second is a Christian, he receives the word with joy, but has no root which for awhile believes and in a time of temptation falls away: he backslides or goes into apostasy. He lacks a root. That is he doesn't have a foundation, likely not in the Scriptures and in prayer and not in a good church. They don't have a consistent source that provides spiritual nourishment to his spirit. Because of their lack of a proper foundation, and no consistent source that provides the spiritual meat that is needed, when trials and temptations come, he cannot bear them, he cannot endure, so he gives up and falls away.

The third are Christians that have heard the word of God, and go forth (what is that referring to?), and the cares, riches, and pleasures of this life, and the lusts of other things choke the word that brings no fruit to perfection. This is where Demas fits in towards the end of Paul's life. He loves this present world and departs from Paul and goes to Thessalonica.

The last are Christians that hear the word, receive it, and keep it and bring forth fruit with patience: some a lot and some a little. (Revelation 1:3)

1 John 3:15-17 Love not the world

Demas is a good example of a biblical truth: *It doesn't matter how you start, it matters how you finish.* There are many examples of Christians starting out good, and then falling away for one of the reasons we talked about. Paul said, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. He was faithful unto death.

At salvation God has given you a great start. He has given you of his Spirit, and his Word, and there are still some good Bible believing churches around and the rest is up to you whether you will love the Lord Jesus Christ and obey him in all things. The most general thing I can say to you that sums up what God expects of you from the day of your salvation to the day of the salvation of your body is CONTINUE in THE FAITH (John 8:31, John 15:9, Acts 13:43, Acts 14:22, 1 Timothy 4:16, 2 Timothy 3:14, Colossians 1:21-23).