

DO YOU LOVE THE WORLD?

2 Timothy 4:1-13

INTRODUCTION: We are warned in the Word of God not to love this present world! 1 John 2:15-17. We might think that once someone walks with God and learns His ways that he could never again love this world but we would be wrong!

I. A MAN NAMED DEMAS!

Let's talk about Demas. Demas is only mentioned three times in the New Testament: twice good and once not very good at all. Colossians 4:14; Philemon 1:23-24. Wouldn't it be nice to read your name in God's Word and be called a "dear friend" of the Apostle Paul? Not only that but to see your name in another book of the Bible and see your name yet again as a fellow worker with the Apostle Paul. However it is the final mention in God's word about Demas that we will talk about tonight as a warning of what could be our end if we do not take heed to God's warning here. 1 Corinthians 10:11-13; 2 Timothy 4:9-10. How does a faithful minister and a friend of the Apostle Paul's go from actively serving His Lord to loving this world? Proverbs 4:23; Colossians 3:1-3.

II. DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD!

If we fall in love with this world it will take our hearts away from our first love: 1 John 2:15-17. Our problem is that what we love the most we put first in our lives. 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Our problems start when we love the things of this world more than we love the One Who gave them to us for our enjoyment for a season: Matthew 22:36-40. We do love our families, our health, our jobs, sunsets and sunrises but compared to our love for Christ, each of these loves should be like hate: Luke 14:25-27.

III. THE FLESH

Natural affections are strong and should be so, but our love for Christ must come first! 1 John 2:16-17. The lusts of the flesh speak of an inordinate desire or appetite for the things of this world. Luke 22:15. It is indeed commendable when we become emotional or passionate about the God ordained purposes for our lives: Romans 12:11. However the passions that seek to please the cravings of our sinful flesh lead us away from the love of the Lord and eternity with Him to sin in this world. James 1:13-15. Our Lord condemned our anxieties for our self pleasures as worldly characteristics: Luke 12:22-26; Luke 8:14. The deceitfulness of wealth is an inordinate desire to become rich so we can enjoy the pleasures of the flesh: 1 Timothy 6:6-12. Our earthly nature must be put to death so the life of Christ can live through us: Colossians 3:5-10. The lusts of our eyes are those things in this life we see that might draw us away from our God: Matthew 6:22-23; John 12:40; Ephesians 1:18. The boasting of what we have and do: 2 Timothy 3:1-5. We should not even boast of our salvation because that also is a gift from our God to us: Ephesians 2:8-9. Every good gift any of us possess are gifts from our God to us: 1 Corinthians 4:7. What can we boast about? Jeremiah 9:23-24; Proverbs 27:2; 1 Peter 5:5-6. 2 Corinthians 13:5.