

DEMAS, MARK, AND LUKE

Introduction

- 1) **Demas, Mark, Luke** – three of Paul’s fellow-laborers (Philemon 24; Col. 4:10, 14)
 - a) Each man lived a life that revealed a pattern of obedience and/or disobedience that may reflect the pattern of our own lives
 - b) **2 Timothy 4:10-11**, as Paul nears the end of his life, circumstances had taken place in the lives of these three men both for good and bad – Paul experienced joy and sadness in them
- 2) Let us consider our own lives as we look closer at **Demas, Mark, and Luke**

I) **DEMAS**

- A) Mentioned only in Col. 4:14, Philemon 24, 2 Tim. 4:10; a Gentile (Col. 4:11, 14)
- B) Devoted fellow-worker with Paul; with Paul when he is in chains (Col. 4:3)
 - 1) Would have witnessed Paul attacked by false teachers and ungodly men, his imprisonment and sufferings, and the power of God demonstrated through Paul’s miracles and preaching, but...
- C) Most remembered for **forsaking** Paul and the Lord’s work, “having loved this present world” (2 Tim. 4:10)
 - 1) **Forsaken** – lit. to leave down in; to abandon, desert, leave in straits, leave helpless, leave in a lurch, let down; to forsake one in a set of circumstances that are against him.
- D) “Loving this present world” – choice of master, commitment, loyalty
 - 1) Loving the world sets one against God (1 Jn. 2:15-17; Jas. 4:4; Matt. 6:24; Col. 3:1-2)
 - 2) Why did he turn his love to the world? Unknown – Was it for family? Friends? Temptations of money, fame, easy life?
- E) Lessons
 - 1) Just being around Paul did not prevent Demas from falling away; must have own faith!
 - 2) Misplaced his priority and loyalty – gave devil an opportunity to draw him away
 - 3) Quitters never win (Lk. 9:62); whole world not worth exchanging soul for (Matt. 16:26)

II) **MARK**

- A) First mentioned in connection to his mother, Mary (Acts 12:12) *John* (Jewish) *Mark* (Greek)
- B) Brought from Jerusalem to Antioch by Barnabas and Saul (Acts 12:25)
 - 1) Mark is a cousin of Barnabas (Col. 4:10)
- C) Accompanies Barnabas and Saul on first missionary journey (Acts 13:4-5)
 - 1) Leaves them when they reach Perga in Pamphylia (v. 13) Why? – unknown
- D) Paul later deemed him unworthy to rejoin their work (Acts 15:36-40); lost confidence of Paul
- E) Restored again to Paul’s confidence after some time (10+ years?)
 - 1) With Paul when he is in prison; commended to brethren; comfort to Paul (Col. 4:10-11)
 - 2) 2 Timothy 4:11 – “Bring Mark” – useful to Paul for ministry (once deserted, now useful)
 - 3) Companion of Peter (1 Pet. 5:13) – apostolic connection to **gospel of Mark**?
- F) Lessons
 - 1) Will we go the distance? If we fall, we can repent and be useful to Lord again (1 Jn. 1:9)

III) **LUKE**

- A) Beloved physician (Col. 4:14); highly educated and trained
- B) Faithful traveling companion of Paul (Acts 16:6-10; 20:2-5; 27:1)
- C) Authored **Luke-Acts** – divinely inspired history from birth of John the Baptist (4 BC) to Paul’s first imprisonment (AD 61) – ca. 65 years of history!
- D) Lessons – Be a steady, loyal, sacrificial, courageous worker for the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58)

Conclusion

Demas forsook and fell away; **Mark** left, but was restored to usefulness; **Luke** was a steady, faithful worker – which are you? What example will you give others in the work of the Lord?