

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

MORNING MESSAGE

"Friends, Foes, and Failures"

2 Timothy 4:9-15

- I. THE DESIRED TIMOTHY (v.9)
 - A. Paul's desire was demanding
 - B. Paul's desire was dangerous
 - C. Paul's desire was direct
- II. THE DISAPPOINTING DEMAS (v.10a)
 - A. Demas is mention three times in Scripture
 - 1. Colossians 4:14, "Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you"
 - 2. Philemon 23-24, "There salute thee Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus; Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lukas, my fellow laborers"
 - 3. 2 Timothy 4:10, "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed into Thessalonica"
- III. THE DIFFICULT CRESCENS (v.10b)
- IV. THE DISCIPLER TITUS (v.10c)
 - A. Titus is one of Paul's preacher boys
 - 1. Titus 1:4, "To Titus, mine own son after the flesh"
 - 2. Titus 1:5, "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting"
- V. THE DEVOTED LUKE (v.11a)
 - A. Luke was Paul's companion
 - B. Luke was Paul's correspondent
- VI. THE DYNAMIC MARK (v.11b)
 - A. Mark's story is told in the book of Acts
 - 1. In Acts 12 he is a disciple
 - 2. In Acts 13 he is a dropout
 - 3. In Acts 15 he is a divider
 - B. Mark's failure was not final
 - 1. Colossians 4:10, "Aristarchus my fellow prisoner saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas"

2. Philemon 24, "Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow laborers"
3. 1 Peter 5:13, "Marcus my son"

VII. THE DEPENDABLE TYCHICUS (v.12)

- A. Tychicus is mentioned five times in Scripture
 1. In Acts 20 he was dispatched to Jerusalem
 2. In Ephesians 6:21 he is called a "beloved brother" and "faithful minister"
 3. In Colossians 4:7 Paul adds "fellow servant"
 4. In Titus 3:12 he is listed as a possible replacement for Titus
- B. Tychicus is mentioned in two footnotes
 1. Ephesians, "Written from Rome unto the Ephesians by Tychicus"
 2. Colossians, "Written from Rome to the Colossians by Tychicus and Onesimus"

VIII. THE DELIGHTFUL CARPUS (v.13)

- A. This is the only time Carpus is named in Scripture
 1. "Cloak" describes a heavy garment
 2. "Books" means books written on papyrus
 3. "Parchments" means books written on animal skin; probably the Old Testament Scriptures

IX. THE DEVIOUS ALEXANDER (vv.14-15)

- A. Alexander was a common name
 1. There are at least five men named Alexander in the Bible
 - a. Mark 15:21 – one of the sons of Simon of Cyrene
 - b. Acts 4:6 – a leader in Jerusalem
 - c. Acts 19:33 – at the Ephesus riot
 - d. 1 Timothy 1:20 – a man who Paul turned over to Satan
- B. Paul was willing to let God take care of Alexander
 1. Deuteronomy 32:35, "To me belongeth vengeance and recompense"
 2. Romans 12:19, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord"

CONCLUSION

- A. All of us have friends, foes, and failures
 1. Thank God for your friends

2. Pray for your foes
3. Reach out to the failures