

Edgemont Bible Church
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2 Timothy 4:9-22

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Intro: In today's day and age, we think we invented something new with networking, but as Solomon said, there is nothing new under the sun. Paul understood this truth and used the illustration of the body to describe the functioning Church, working together, each one according to their gifting to bring the lost and Glory to God. It is not surprising to see Paul remembering so many in the last part of his last letter.

XI. Friends and Foes

A. Timothy, the Faithful Son - vs 9

1. in his first letter, Timothy is a true son in the faith - 1:2
2. in the second letter, a beloved son -1:2
3. No closer earthly friend who was so dear and trusted
 - a. 1Co 4:17 For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.
 - b. Php 2:19-20 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.
4. Be diligent to come to me quickly;
 - a. knowing that his time was coming to an end, as a father wanting to see his son one more time
 - b. Timothy did follow in his spiritual father's footsteps - he remained faithful even unto imprisonment - Heb 13:23 Know that our brother Timothy has been set free, with whom I shall see you if he comes shortly.

B. Demas, the Unfaithful Deserter - vs 10a

1. Demas was valuable apparently in some way
2. Paul was hoping that Timothy would arrive soon to take up what Demas had abandoned
3. Demas' three appearances in the NT
 - a. Col 4:14 Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.
 - b. Greetings - Phm 1:24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers.
 - c. and here
4. for whatever reason Demas leaves bringing much disappointment to Paul
 - a. Demas has forsaken me,
 - i. Why?
 - Fear of association and therefore of possible punishment
 - loss of comfort
 - ii. **Egkatalleipo** - to leave behind in some place, (in a good sense) let remain over, or (in a bad sense) to desert:--forsake, leave.
 - b. having loved this present world,
 - i. (more than he loved the Lord)
 - ii. 1Jo 2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
 - iii. Mt 13:20-21 "But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; "yet

he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

- c. and has departed for Thessalonica
 - i. probably thought it was safe there
 - ii. Perhaps his home

C. Crescens, the Faithful Unknown - vs 10b

- 1. little can be inferred by the mention of Crescens
 - a. but nothing else is known about him
 - b. we are assuming that he was faithful as Demas was the only one presented as having abandoned Paul
 - c. Paul may have been sending some of these away to build up the churches and keep them safe
- 2. apparently Crescens was from Galatia,
- 3. Paul had ministered in Galatia on all three of his missionary journeys
- 4. if he was a dedicated servant, he was going to dedicated churches

D. Titus, the Faithful Known - vs 10c

- 1. Titus on the other hand is a known entity
 - a. he was faithful
 - b. mentioned by name 9 times in 2 Co and twice in Galatians
 - c. his letter was written a few years before 2 Tim
 - d. in Tit 1:4, Paul calls him a true son in our common faith:
 - e. on his way to Rome the first time, Paul left him in Crete, - Tit 1:5
 - i. that he should set in order the things that are lacking,
 - ii. and appoint elders in every city
 - f. he was a builder and equipper trusted to teach and pastor struggling churches
- 2. After Paul's release from the first imprisonment
 - a. went to Macedonia then to Dalmatia (known as Illyricum) - Ro 15:19
 - b. from there, to Nicopolis, having asked Titus to meet him - Tit 3:12
 - c. Titus probably went to Dalmatia to strengthen the churches and build up it's leaders.

E. Luke, the Faithful Companion - vs 11a

- 1. Only Luke is with me.
 - a. some take this in the negative sense - I have no real friends left here, just Luke
 - b. More likely, only Luke is here to bear the burden of ministry in Rome
- 2. Luke mentioned 3 times in NT
 - a. Col 4:14 Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.
 - b. Phm 1:24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers.
 - c. here
- 3. the only gentile writer in the NT, yet he wrote the Gospel by his name and the book of Acts
- 4. was a physician by trade - nothing said about practice after conversion
- 5. may have acted as Paul's amanuenses (one employed to write from dictation or to copy manuscript)
- 6. had accompanied Paul over thousands of miles on the missionary journeys

F. Mark, the Unfaithful Restored - vs 11b

- 1. Get Mark and bring him with you,
 - a. apparently, Timothy would pass wherever Mark was on the way to Rome

- b. sometimes called John - Acts 12:12
- c. was the impetus for the fall out between Paul and Barnabas
 - i. was on the first missionary journey w/ Paul and Barnabas
 - ii. Found it to difficult and went home - Acts 13:13
 - iii. When Paul wanted to visit the churches a second time, Barnabas wanted to bring Mark - Ac 15:37
 - iv. Paul said, no way, Jose, and they had contention to the point of separation - Ac 15:38-40
 - v. Barnabas, obviously built into Marks life
 - i. due to what Paul says here
 - ii. And in Phm 1:24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers.
 - vi. Mark also spent time w/ Peter - 1 Pet 5:13

2. for he is useful to me for ministry.

G. Tychicus, the Faithful Messenger - vs 12

- 1. And Tychicus
- 2. I have sent to Ephesus.
 - a. probably his home province - Acts 20:4
 - b. maybe to deliver the letter to Timothy
 - i. as he had to the Ephesians - Eph 6:12
 - ii. as he had to the Colossians - Co 4:7
 - c. probably gifted in the area of service

H. Carpus, the Faithful Host - vs 13

- 1. Carpus at Troas - probably showed some hospitality to Paul at some point
- 2. Asked Timothy a personal request
 - a. Bring the cloak when you come
 - i. large heavy wool covering
 - ii. would be used as coat or blanket
 - b. and the books, - probably scrolls, - possibly the OT scriptures to be used for ministry
 - c. especially the parchments - possibly the OT scriptures or copies of his own writings

I. Alexander, the Faithless Enemy - vs 14-15

- 1. Paul devotes as many words to Alexander as to all the others combined
- 2. Who is Alexander
 - a. Most likely the alexander that Paul had delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme with Hymenaeus - 1Ti 1:20
 - b. by saying Alexander the coppersmith, he may have been identifying him as another altogether
- 3. Alexander may have been an idol maker or false teacher
- 4. He did Paul much harm.
- 5. Paul's Imprecatory prayer - May the Lord repay him according to his works.
- 6. Paul's warning to Timothy
 - a. You also must beware of him,
 - b. for he has greatly resisted our words.

J. The Unfaithful Anonymous - vs 16

- 1. At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me.
 - a. defense - **apologia** - a plea ("apology")!--answer for, clearing of (self)
 - b. no one stood with me - **sumparaginomai** - to be present together, to convene; to appear in aid!--come together, stand with.

c. but all forsook me

i. **egkatalaipo** - same as Demas

ii. Apparently Luke 4:11, and Onesiphorus - 1:16, had not arrived in Rome yet

2. May it not be charged against them - following the example of Stephen - Ac 7:60 and Christ - Lu 23:34

K. Christ, the Faithful Lord - vs 17-18

1. But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me,

a. for the proclamation of the Gospel - so that the message might be preached fully through me,

b. To fulfill his ministry as apostle to the gentiles - and that all the Gentiles might hear.

c. And I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion - 1 Pet 5:8

2. And the Lord will

a. deliver me from every evil work - ultimately through the finishing work of his salvation

b. and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom - the security of Paul's salvation was never in his own hand, but in Christ's

3. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen! - PTL!

L. The Faithful Old Friends - vs 19-20

1. Greet Prisca and Aquila,

a. met them on the 2nd missionary journey in Corinth - Ac 18:2

b. fellow tentmakers - Ac 18:3

c. disciplined Apollos - Ac 18:26

2. and the household of Onesiphorus - 1:16

a. had ministered to Paul in prison

b. b/c the household is mentioned in both cases, probably the whole family and servants saved

3. Erastus stayed in Corinth - the city treasurer of Corinth - Ro 16:23

4. but Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick

a. an Ephesian

b. probably helped carry the offering to Jerusalem - Ac 21:29

c. sign gifts coming to the end of their use as the NT is close to completion

M. The Faithful New Friends - vs 21

1. Do your utmost to come before winter.

a. he would need the cloak by then

b. shorter days, less time to read

2. Eubulus greets you, as well as Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brethren.

a. 3 latin names

b. legend says Claudia was the wife or mother of Linus

N. Benediction - vs 22

1. To all who were part of Paul's network, - men, women, close friends, enemies, the faithful, the deserter - each had influence on his ministry and life

2. The Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit

a. he draws their attention back to the Lord

b. Grace be with you. Amen - probably will not see any of them in this world again and leaves them in the Lord's hands