

~DEMAS (36)

(De'mas) [possibly a shortened form of Demetrius, meaning Of Or Belonging to Demeter]

- A onetime fellow worker of the apostle Paul. **Demas** was in Rome with the apostle during his first imprisonment there, his greetings being included in letters to the Colossians and to Philemon.
- Luke the beloved physician sends you his greetings, and so does **Demas**. (**Colossians 4:14**)
- Also Mark, Aristarchus, **Demas**, Luke, my fellow workers. (**Philemon 1:24**)
- When Paul wrote to Timothy during his second imprisonment, **Demas** had forsaken the apostle and departed to Thessalonica, perhaps his hometown.
- For **Demas** has forsaken me because he loved the present system of things, and he has gone to Thessalonica, Crescens to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. (**2 Timothy 4:10**)
- The exact nature of **Demas** forsaking Paul because of his love for the present system of things is not disclosed. The apostle does not say Demas became an apostate or opposer. Perhaps **Demas** love for material things and worldly pleasures became stronger than that for spiritual things.
- Fear of martyrdom with Paul may have caused **Demas** to seek a safer place and thus preserve his life in the then-existing system of things. In any event, when conditions became unfavorable, Demas failed to use his marvelous opportunity to strengthen his brother Paul.