THE QUITTERS

II Tim. 4:10

INTRODUCTION:
1. "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world"...II Tim. 4:10
2. This is a sad statement, for Demas was one of PROMISE.
   (1) He was associated with Paul in the Lord's work, and Paul called him a fellow-laborer in Philemon 24 -- Col. 4:14
3. But by about A.D. 68, in the second letter to Timothy, Paul had to say --"For Demas hath forsaken me" - - in other words, Demas was a QUITTER.
4. To QUIT is to abandon, to cease, to stop, to give up.
5. No sadder words can be spoken of a man than to say he "quit" the Lord's cause.
6. Let us study the QUITTER and see what the QUITTER does.

I. THE QUITTER QUILTS ASSEMBLING WITH GOD’S PEOPLE
1. The QUITTER has abandoned his HOPE of heaven -- Heb. 10: 19 - 20
2. He has stopped drawing near to God -- Heb. 10: 21- 22; James 4:8
3. He has stopped being interested in his brethren being saved; he no longer stirs up love and good works in them -- Heb. 10: 24 - 25
4. He has abandoned the church -- Heb. 10:25

II. WHAT THE QUITTER IS GUILTY OF:
1. WILLFUL SIN -- Heb. 10:26
   (1) To sin willfully is to sin deliberately
   (2) To sin willfully is to reject Christ, our only sacrifice for sin -- Heb. 10:26; Rev. 1:5; I Pet. 1: 18 - 19
   (3) When we forsake the church, the house of God, we have forsaken Christ our High Priest -- Heb. 10:21
2. The QUITTER treads underfoot the Son of God -- Heb. 10:29
   (1) Men tread on that which they despise and condemn -- Matt. 5:13
   (2) Can you think of anything worse than to tread on the Son of God?
3. The QUITTER counts the blood of the covenant an unholy thing -- Heb. 10:29
   (1) UNHOLY means -- impure, not sacred
   (2) What the blood of Christ has done for man:
      1. Justifies -- Rom. 5:9
2. Forgiveness of sins -- Eph. 1:7; Matt. 26:28

3. We overcome Satan -- Rev. 12: 10 - 11

4. Bought the church -- Acts 20:28

4. The QUITTER does despite to the Spirit of grace -- Heb. 10:29

(1) Insults the Spirit of Grace

5. He crucifies the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame -- Heb. 6:6

III. THE QUITTER QUITS THE LORD'S WORK

1. The church has the responsibility to carry the gospel to the Lost -- I Tim. 3:15; Mark 16: 15 - 16

2. The man or woman who quits the ASSEMBLIES is not going to feel any responsibility to teach others the gospel.

3. The QUITTER knows the gospel is God’s power to save -- Rom. 1:16

4. But, the QUITTER will hardly have concern for the Gospel or the Lost.

IV. THE QUITTER QUITS SUPPORTING THE LORD’S WORK

1. God’s people are to support the work of the Lord by giving each first day of the week -- I Cor. 16: 1 - 2

2. The QUITTER does not do this.

3. The QUITTER receives from the Lord and gives nothing.

4. He robs God -- Mal. 3:8

V. THE QUITTER HAS QUIT THE LORD’S TABLE

1. Disciples are to eat the Supper each first day of the week -- Acts 20:7

2. He is to eat the supper “in remembrance” of Christ -- I Cor. 11: 24

3. It is a communion with the body and blood of Christ -- I Cor. 10:16

4. The Supper shows the Lord’s death till He come -- I Cor. 11: 26

VI. THE QUITTER HAS QUIT THE LORD’S PEOPLE

1. He no longer ASSEMBLIES with them -- Heb. 10:25

2. He no longer provokes them to love and to good works and he is not provoked by them -- Heb. 10:24

3. He no longer teaches and admonishes them in song -- Col. 3:16

4. He no longer edifies them, nor is he edified -- Rom. 14: 19; Eph. 4:16

VII. WHY WOULD ONE BE A QUITTER?

1. There are many EXCUSES offered for quitting:

   (1) "My job makes it hard for me to get there."
(2) "My clothing is not good enough."
(3) "The people are not friendly"
(4) "The services are dull and draggy."
(5) "I don't care for the preacher."

2. But, the reasons most people quit are these:

(1) Can't take the tribulation or persecution because of the Word -- Matt. 13:21
(2) Or the desire for other things choke the word -- Matt. 13:22; Mark 4: 16 - 19; Luke 8:14

VIII. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF QUITTING?

1. The QUITTER joins a very large and undesirable crowd when he quits

(1) SATAN and his angels were quitters -- Jude 6
(2) ISRAEL rejected God in the days of Samuel -- I Sam. 8:7
(3) Some of Christ's DISCIPLES, "Went back, and walked no more with Him"...John 6: 66
(4) JUDAS ISCARIOT quit the Lord for thirty pieces of silver -- Matt. 26: 14 - 16
(5) DEMAS was a QUITTER -- II Tim. 4:10

2. The QUITTER joins Satan in opposing the church

(1) Though a member of the church, he really is on Satan's side.
(2) He is now serving Satan again and working against God's plan -- Rom. 6: 16

3. The QUITTER sets a terrible example

(1) By his example the QUITTER says, It is not necessary to be "steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord"...I Cor. 15:58
(2) By opposing God's will in his own life, he becomes a stumbling block to others.
(3) Jesus tells the condition of one who offends others -- Matt. 18:6

4. The QUITTER disobeys God -- Heb. 10: 25; I Cor. 15: 58

5. The QUITTER will be LOST

(1) Luke 9:62
(2) II Pet. 2: 20 - 21
(3) Rev. 21: 8

CONCLUSION:

1. Friend, what is your condition? Are you among the QUITTERS? If so, won't you change that and go back to serving? You need to repent, confess and pray.

2. The church should make every effort to save the QUITTERS -- James 5: 19 - 20; Gal. 6:1