

any time. Jesus Christ said in Lk. 9:62 that no man that ~~is~~ puts his hand to the plow and looks back is ~~not~~ worthy of the kingdom of heaven. Well he doesn't simply mean someone who glances back; we are not like Lot's wife who glanced around and was immediately turned into a pillar of salt. We all glance back; we all glance behind at times. Somebody has said, I cannot help the birds flying over my head. I can't prevent that. But I certainly can prevent them from making nests in my hair and from stopping there. And we are always going ^{to look back and} to have that from time to time which is difficult to handle, but we must handle it with the strength of God and in the light of the cross. We must keep our eyes on the Lord and move forward, and not long for the flesh-pots of Egypt. O it is sad to read in Col. 4:14 where Paul puts two men on the same level. In Col. 4:14 he says, Luke the beloved physician and Demas ~~greet~~ greet you. Two great Christian leaders - Luke and Demas. Paul puts them both on the same level here, in the same verse in Col. 4:14. And then when he writes to Philemon he says in vs. 24, Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke my fellow laborers. Here are two writers of the Gospels -- Mark and Luke, and Demas put right in between them. But then in 2 Tim. 4:10, the Apostle had to say, Demas hath left me having loved this present world.

Now we can't say whether Demas was saved or not. When I was ordained - when I was examined for ordination, I was asked Was Constantine's conversion genuine? And my answer was I cannot judge of the genuineness of the ^{conversion} ~~conversion~~ of any man. God knows, and the man knows. You know whether you have truly put your trust in Christ or whether you have said certain words; whether you have just a vague idea, whether you are actually perhaps a hypocrite. You know and God knows. I don't know. By their ~~fruits~~ fruits ye shall know them. We have to ~~make~~ make judgments in order to decide how we shall act. But the final knowledge as to who is ^{truly} saved, only God knows. Was Demas one who was a hypocrite, one who was truly lost. Or was Demas one who in the end we will ~~find~~ find was saved ~~but~~ but as by fire. One who through all eternity