



## DGM Message Title: A Drink Offering

### Topic: Build Your Life Based on God's Will

**Message Summary:** When it's all over, our lives will not be measured by the achievements on our walls, the money in our bank accounts, or what people say about us. God will measure our lives based on what He has assigned us to do and who He assigned us to be.

#### Scriptural References:

- 2 Tim 4:6-13 NKJV
- Psalm 104:15 NKJV
- Acts 15:36-39 NKJV
- Isaiah 40:8 NKJV

#### Key Points:

- 2 Tim 4:6 NKJV
  - Paul was ready. But he also was noting how quickly life moved.
  - "The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot." – Michael Altshuler
  - drink offering is a quart of wine that is poured out at the base of the alter with the lamb to sacrifice.
    - Ps 104:15 NKJV
    - Wine is a recurring symbol of joy
    - Represented God's joy; if God is pleased, nothing else matters.
  - Paul knew his imprisonment ended in death
  - Word departure – a soldier packing up his tent and moving on
  - Death for those who live for God isn't frightening. It's just the next leg of our journey.
- 4:7 NKJV
  - You will see a disciple's struggle, but you will never see them quit.
  - Paul saw life as a race to finish, a battle to be won, an assignment to be completed.
  - When it's all over, our lives will not be measured by the achievements on our walls, the money in our bank accounts, or what people say about us.
    - God will measure our lives based on what He has assigned us to do and who He assigned us to be.
  - When you get to heaven, you'll be surprised that 50% of your reward will come from just hanging in there and showing up.
    - Imagine taking a test in college and 50% of your grade is just writing your name at the top and turning it in!

- 4:8 NKJV
  - The crown was not like the ones kings wore. It was a wreath that was placed on an athlete's head after he finished the competition.
  - Paul understood that every time he chose to obey God and complete His assignment, God would lay aside something special in heaven.
    - God saw every choice Paul made.
    - Paul's reward was greater than any on Earth.
  - Paul was so excited to be at the finish line in his life.
  - Paul knew there was a day coming when he wouldn't have to stress or struggle.
    - The greatest honor God could give him was to say, "no more fighting!"
    - Paul was ready for this day.
  - Life's not always fair, but in heaven, there is no devil!
    - When we get to heaven, God will make everything right.
  - We love God best when we love others most.
  - "There are no crown-wearers in heaven who were not cross-bearers here below." – Charles Spurgeon
- 4:9 NKJV
  - In Paul's earlier epistles, he was surrounded by friends. All of them wanted Paul to give a "shout out" to them in his epistles
    - Rom 16:21 NKJV
    - 1 Cor 16:19 NKJV
    - His journey was full of life and relationship!
  - In 2 Tim, we see that he was alone, for the first time.
    - Life took everything to different places.
    - Loneliness and isolation began to creep in, and Paul longed for his friends. He was excited about where he was going, but he also reflected on the past.
    - He wanted company.
  - One of the blessings of old friends is that you can't take yourself too seriously around them, because they know all the stupid stuff you've done.
- 4:10 NKJV
  - Demas didn't abandon the faith, but he has clearly abandoned Paul.
  - You may still be on the team, but if you miss all your blocking assignments, what's the point of you being in the game?
  - God doesn't just assign us to tasks; He assigns us to people.
  - Demas was supposed to be with Paul.
  - Demas loved the "now age." – he wasn't willing to sacrifice anything "right now."
  - Get all you can, can all you get, then find the best way to sit on your cans.
  - Demas went somewhere that was easy for him.
  - Some people want to stay small, forever.
- 4:11 NKJV
  - Only Luke stayed the course.
    - When we get to heaven, God won't just ask, "what did you do?" He'll ask if you were faithful to the people you were assigned to.
    - People are more difficult than tasks.

- Have you finished your race? Have you run your course?
    - Luke probably got his gospel from Paul, mostly. This may be the time that Luke began to write down the story of Jesus' life.
    - No one knows the name "Demas." But Luke is still a popular name, today.
  - God has a purpose for your pain, a reason for your struggle, and a gift for your faithfulness. Don't give up!
  - Acts 15:36-39 NKJV
    - Paul went back to a city that severely and violently persecuted him because he was concerned for their spiritual wellbeing.
    - Mark wasn't bad. He just wasn't ready.
  - Paul wanted the same Mark that messed up in Acts.
    - We shouldn't give up on someone that God hasn't given up on.
    - I never make the same mistake twice. I make it 8 or 9 times, just to be sure.
    - In time, God developed in Mark the character that he needed so he could become everything God wanted him to be.
    - Mark even went on to write one of the 4 gospels, listening to Peter.
    - We can learn a whole lot more from our mistakes if we didn't spend all our time trying to justify them.
    - Make your mistakes, learn from them, then move on.
- 4:13 NKJV
  - God's will for your life won't always be easy. It won't always be comfortable. But it will be worth it!
  - Just because your life is looking down doesn't mean you're out of God's will.
  - Paul didn't know how everything was going to end.
  - Life is like an elevator. On your way up, you may have to stop to let some people and some things off.
  - Paul was nearing the end of his life, but he was still very much alive.
    - He wanted books to read.
    - He had ideas to study
    - He wanted to write down his thoughts.
  - You're never too old to have a goal, to learn, or to get better.
    - Paul knows it's not too late! He wanted to be the best to his last breath.
  - Parchment was probably copies of the scriptures
    - "A Bible that's falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn't." – Charles Spurgeon
    - Is 40:8 NKJV
- My hope for you today is that you start to build your life on God's eternal award for your eternal reward.
  - His Word is the only thing that will last throughout eternity.