

THINGS IMPOSSIBLE TO IMAGINE

by Darwin Hunter

The apostle Peter or Paul (or Mary Magdalene, or Priscilla) making a decision to stay home from worship because of rain in their first century hometowns (**Hebrews 10:24-25**)

Luke, the beloved physician, saying, "Let someone else visit the sick brother in the hospital. Those places make me uncomfortable" (**Matthew 25:41-45**).

Timothy deciding that he is too young to take on responsibility in the church while saying, "I will do those things when I am older" (**I Timothy 4:12**)

Paul deciding to "hang it up" after laboring for so many years without appreciation while complaining, "I'm too old to do this stuff anymore; let the younger people do it" (**Philemon 9**)

An early Christian declining to evangelize while excusing himself by saying, "That's why we have professional preachers like the apostles, Let them teach others" (**Acts 8:4**)

A first century congregation of the Lord deciding to dismiss a worship service because of the big gladiatorial contest in the arena this Sunday (**Matthew 6:33**)

The church at Antioch deciding to spend the Lord's treasury on a gymnasium to attract more young people (**Titus 2:6-10**)

The Lord's church at Corinth deciding to quit having Gospel meetings since very few of the Lord's people will attend them anymore (**Mark 16:15-16**)

The two-mite widow deciding to not give this Sunday because her bills are so high, and explaining, "I'm sure the Lord will understand" (**Luke 21:1ff; I Corinthians 16:1-2**).

Aquila getting angry about being overlooked for song leading duties and declaring to his wife, Priscilla, "I will never attend that church ever again!" (**Romans 16:3-5**).

Eunice telling an elder in the local church, "I and my son, Timothy, will be attending another congregation from now on because you don't have enough fun for young people here" (**2 Timothy 1:5; Philippians 2:19-24**).

No, you cannot even imagine those things happening in the early church, can you? Unfortunately, we do not have to IMAGINE them in today's church, but can regularly observe such shallow Demas-like "Christianity" among modern church members (**2 Timothy 4:10**).