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# **“Fall in Love, and you will not leave him”**

And what is the secret of perseverance? Love. Fall in Love, and you will not leave him. (The Way, 999)

June 10

That passage of the Second Epistle to Timothy makes me shudder, when the Apostle laments that Demas has fallen in love with this present world and gone to Thessalonica. For a trifle, and for fear of persecution, this man,

whom Saint Paul had quoted in other epistles as being among the saints, had betrayed the divine enterprise. I shudder when I realize how little I am: and it leads me to demand from myself faithfulness to the Lord even in events that might seem to be indifferent -- for if they do not help me to be more united to Him, I do not want them. (Furrow, 343)

Discouragement is an enemy of your perseverance. If you don't fight against discouragement you will become pessimistic first, and lukewarm afterwards. Be an optimist. (The Way, 988)

Oh blessed perseverance of the donkey that turns the water-wheel! Always the same pace. Always the same circles. One day after another: everyday the same. Without that, there would be no ripeness in the fruit, nor blossom in the orchard, nor scent of flowers in the garden. Carry

this thought to your interior life. (The Way, 998)

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