

Unsubscribe Me

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Theme: We can't unsubscribe from temptation but we can subscribe to God for His help.

1 Corinthians 10 Paul recounts Israel's history as both an example and a warning to the Corinthian Christians about their present spiritual condition.

George Santayana wrote (in *The Life of Reason*, 1905): "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

"I know of no way of judging the future but by the past."
Patrick Henry

"Study the past, if you would devine the future."
Confucius

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NKJV)

¹ Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, ² all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

Study notes: Israel was first delivered from Egypt a type of sin & bondage equivalent to a person being Born Again (John 3:3). Only after Israel was delivered from Egypt by virtue of the Passover celebration; which was the slaying of the innocent lamb, did they experience baptism; both of water (Red Sea) and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (under the cloud). The pillar of cloud was a gracious gift of the Holy Spirit's presence with Israel. The Holy Spirit today is our GIFT, GUIDE AND COMFORTER (see John 14:16).

³ all ate the same spiritual food,

Study notes: The Lord Jesus is God's Manna from heaven (see John 6).

⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

Study notes: a clear reference to the Lord's Supper. In this wilderness of sin let us not drink from the sewage holes of this world to quench our thirst but from the living water that Christ provides (see John 4:13-14).

⁵ But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

Study notes: at least 73 verse in the Bible deal with God's anger. What angers God? Five things are mentioned by Paul in verses 6-10. (1) Lusting (2) Idolatry (3) Sexual Immorality (4) Tempting Christ (5) Complaining.

⁶ Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.

Study notes: to lust for something means to have an inordinate craving for something that becomes greater than reason, wisdom and character (see Num. 11).

⁷ And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play."

Study notes: a reference to the golden calf incident Exodus 32. Idolatry is a value system. It's anything or anyone that we elevate in our lives greater than God.

⁸ *Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell;*

Study notes: in Numbers 25 they were in a place called Shittim where they “played the harlot with the women of Moab.” Any sex outside of a committed monogamous marital relationship between one man and one woman is sin. Samson’s fornication (sex outside marriage) with a prostitute was sin (Judges 16). David adulterous extra-marital affair with Bathsheba was sin (2 Sam. 11). Sodomy/homosexuality in Gen. 19 was sin.

⁹ *nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents;*

Study notes: Numbers 21 the people of God were complaining about God and his servant Moses. Tempting God is trying God’s patience. God sent serpents to attack the people.

¹⁰ *nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer.*

Study notes: murmuring is an outward expression of internal disbelief.

¹¹ *Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.*

Study notes: Five Steps to Backsliding

- (1) Loss of spiritual appetite, rejection of heavenly manna.
- (2) Acceptance of a worldly, non-grace based religion.
- (3) Immorality of some form creeps in.
- (4) Skepticism or some form of tempting God enters your life.
- (5) Final stage, that person goes back to living worldly.

¹² *Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.* ¹³ *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

1 Corinthians 10:14 (MSG)

So, my very dear friends, when you see people reducing God to something they can use or control, get out of their company as fast as you can.

FOUR TAKEAWAYS

1. Maintain a Healthy Spiritual Diet.
2. Remove all Rivals to Christ in your Life. Love Christ Exclusively, Extravagantly & Exceptionally.
3. Practice sexual purity.
4. Keep a Grateful Heart. Ingratitude the greatest of all sins.