**1 Corinthians 10**

*He calls upon the Corinthians to learn from the sins of Israel, and avoid temptation. He tells them to flee idolatry, and avoid offending men. (Synopsis by Stan Cox)*

1. Inquiry from Corinthians **(7:1-16:4)** – *“Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me:”* **(7:1)**.
   1. Liberties, but should not jeopardize another’s, or own, relationship to God **(8:1-11:1)**.
      1. *“concerning things offered to idols”* **(8:1-13)**.
      2. Paul’s Example – Forgoing Liberties **(9:1-23).**
      3. *“take heed lest [you] fall”* **(9:24-10:33)**.
         1. Old Testament Examples **(10:1-13).**
            1. Salvation and Spiritual Provision for Israel **(v. 1-4).**

They were delivered from bondage, and saved just as we **(v. 1-2).**

They had provision for their souls, Christ being with them, as do we **(v. 3-4).**

* + - * 1. Death despite the provision, and presence of Christ **(v. 5).**
        2. *“Now these things became our examples”* **(v. 6-11).**

Do not become idolaters **(v. 7).**

Do not commit sexual immorality **(v. 8).**

Do not tempt Christ **(v. 9).**

Do not complain **(v. 10).**

The record of their history was for us **(v. 11).**

* + - * 1. *“Therefore”* – application of Israel’s example **(v. 12-13).**

Take heed lest you fall – like the Israelites did **(v. 12).**

God provides for us during temptation **(v. 13).**

* + - 1. Flee Idolatry **(10:14-22).**
         1. *“Therefore”* – specific application to flee idolatry **(v. 14).**
         2. Communal implications in religious feasts **(v. 15-22).**

Communion with Christ in the observance of the Lord’s supper **(v. 15-17).**

Israel partakes of alter in eating the sacrifices **(v. 18).**

Application to eating meats sacrificed to idols in a religious feast **(v. 19-22).**

Idols are nothing in the world **(v. 19). (cf. 8:4-6).**

Fellowship with demons by participation in religious feasts **(v. 20).**

*Outline continued on back. 🡪*

Cannot have fellowship with the Lord, and demons. He is a jealous God **(v. 21-22).**

* + - 1. Give no offense, but do all to God’s glory **(10:23-33).**
         1. Specific instructions concluded concerning the eating of meats offered to idols **(v. 23-30).**

Do not only consider whether a thing is lawful, but whether it is helpful and edifying **(v. 23-24).**

Eat things sold in the meat market with no questions for conscience’ sake **(v. 25-26).**

When invited to dinner by an unbeliever **(v. 27-30).**

Ask no questions about the food for conscience’ sake **(v. 27).**

If pointed out that the meat was offered to idols, do not eat it – for the sake of the one, and for conscience’ sake **(v. 28-29a).**

Nothing good will come from exercising liberty in this situation. Judged by others –your actions are considered evil **(v. 29b-30).**

* + - * 1. General instructions concluded **(v. 10:31-11:1).**

Whatever you do, do it to the glory of God **(v. 31).**

Give no offense, but seek the profit of others – their salvation **(v. 32-33).**

This is what Paul is doing as he imitates Christ, and they are to do the same **(11:1).**

**Questions**

1. Why were the Old Testament records written **(v. 6, 11)?**
2. What does Paul mean by, *“whatever you do, do all to the glory of God”* **(v. 31)?**

**Other Questions to Consider**

1. What significance, if any, does Paul’s use of the word, *“baptized,”* have in this context, and in the broader context of baptism in scripture **(v. 2)?** Can this verse be used to validate the necessity of baptism for salvation?
2. Some commentators believe the *“spiritual food,”* and *“spiritual drink”* of **verses 3 and 4** to be a parallel intended by Paul of the Corinthians’ privileged partaking of the Lord’s Supper. *(The Israelites ate manna, and drank water from the rock which affirmed Christ’s presence and provision. The Corinthians partook of the Lord’s Supper which confirmed Christ’s presence and provision.)* While there is not enough evidence to support this view, how might the *“spiritual food,” “spiritual drink,”* and the Lord’s supper confirm the presence, and therefore fellowship and provision, of Christ?