

Old Testament Shadows of God's Judgment

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Israel Lost God's Favor and Died – 10:1-5

- ◆ Corinthians believed their baptism and partaking of the Lord's supper would keep them safe in the idol's temples.
- ◆ Paul illustrates their folly by Israel's loss of fellowship with God because of the same behavior.
 - ◆ All Israel was under the cloud and passed through the Red Sea, being “baptized into Moses” – 10:1-2
 - ◆ All partook of the same spiritual food (manna) and drink (water from the rock), which was Christ – 10:3-4
 - ◆ With most of Israel God was not well pleased, and their bodies were scattered in the wilderness – 10:5

Don't Lust For Evil Things

- ◆ 1 Cor. 10:6 – Israel's acts of disobedience are examples (Gk. tupos/types) to warn us not to lust after evil things as they did.
- ◆ This lusting refers to Israel's refusal of God's manna while desiring the food of Egypt - Num. 11:4-5
 - ◆ Though what Israel desired was not evil in itself, it was desired over God's provisions.
 - ◆ Seeds of discontent caused them to find fault with the faultless and to seek out the ways of slavery while living in freedom!
- ◆ Though God mercifully gave them quail, His wrathful judgement came upon them and they **died** – Num. 11:31-34; 1 Jn. 2:15-16

Don't Become Idolaters

- ◆ This is alluded to because Corinthians Christians wanted to eat at the feasts in idol's temples.
- ◆ 1 Cor. 10:7 – Israel's feast before the golden calf warns against becoming idolaters – Ex. 32:1-6
 - ◆ Israel, like the Corinthians, didn't intend to be idolatrous...but they were! – 32:4-5
 - ◆ The Lesson: Israel's actions brought God's judgment on them and 3000 died in one day!
- ◆ It takes thought and dedication to avoid idolatry – Rom. 12:1-2; Matt. 5:13

Don't Commit Sexual Immorality

- ◆ 1 Cor. 10:8 – Sexual immorality and idolatry go hand in hand.
- ◆ Israel's acts of harlotry lead them into idolatry – Num. 25:1-4, 9
 - ◆ Despite having God's law, Israel here broke three of the 10 Commandments – Ex. 20:1-5, 14
 - ◆ God's judgment was swift and final – 25:4, 9
- ◆ Sexual immorality will bring God's wrathful judgment – Heb. 13:4; Rev. 21:8; 1 Cor. 6:18

Don't Tempt Christ/The Lord

- ◆ 1 Cor. 10:9 – Refers to Israel testing God by their discontent with His provisions – Num. 21:5-6
 - ◆ They ate the same spiritual food (manna), but complained no food, and drank of the same spiritual rock, Christ (10:4), but complained of no drink!
 - ◆ No wonder God's judgement was swift and final, bringing suffering and **death!**
- ◆ We can test God by...
 - ◆ Demanding his rescue from temptation when we have rashly exposed ourselves to it – Rom. 13:14
 - ◆ Pushing our liberties to verge of sin, while believing God grace will cover it – 1 Cor. 8:10-12
 - ◆ Expecting/demanding pardon for sin knowingly committed in complete disregard for God's grace – Heb. 10:29

Don't Complain/Murmur

- ◆ People complain when they feel they haven't received justice or been afforded their legitimate rights.
- ◆ 1 Cor. 10:10 – Refers to Israel's complaining against God's judgment on those who rebelled – Num. 16
 - ◆ Korah and 250 men of renown rebelled and were destroyed by God.
 - ◆ Israel complained against God's judgement and 14,700 Israelites died!
- ◆ God's judgments may seem harsh, but complaining says we 1) know better than God, 2) that He is unjust in restricting us, 3) we are ungrateful for His salvation, 4) ultimately questions His sovereignty! – Phil. 2:14-15

Conclusion

- ◆ 1 Cor. 10:11-13 – 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. 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.”
- ◆ I encourage you to...
 - ◆ Learn the lessons of these examples/types/shadows
 - ◆ Take heed to yourself and your actions, lest you fall into God’s judgment
 - ◆ Know that God is with you and will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear!
 - ◆ Serve the Lord who wants you to be saved!