

An Object Lesson

(1 Corinthians 10:1-13)

I. Israel's Privilege, 1-4

Supernatural signs and blessings

- 1: Cloud: protected from desert heat.
- 1: Through Sea: Almighty protection from most powerful armies.
- 2: Moses, new leader/guide; baptized into Moses; Ex.14:29-30.
- 3: Miraculous food supply.
- 4: Miraculous water supply. The Rock (Christ)

Supernatural signs and blessings

- Israel would bring Jesus into world (Jn.4:22) . . .
 - but Jesus protected them so they could bring Him into world.

Supernatural signs and blessings

2 Co.12:12

Corinth protected from heat of sin, 10:13.

Blessed by Paul's rescue from sea (2 Co. 11:26). Cf. 1 Co.16:13.

Baptized into Christ, 1 Co.1:12-13; 12:13.

Miraculous 'food,' 1 Co.12:13. [Jn.6, Bread]

Supernatural water supply for spiritual growth, 1 Co.3:6.

Supernatural signs and blessings

- Corinth was very gifted (1:5-7), but privileges can lead to overconfidence.
- The reason for chapter 10 (11-12...14).
- Israel enjoyed highest privileges, yet fell!

I. Israel's Privilege, 1-4

II. Israel's Punishment, 5

Not well pleased with most

- All received blessings.
 - Most did not reach Promised Land.
 - Daily signs / instructions, yet most lost.
- Scattered in wilderness . . . (spread out; wilderness of corpses).
 - Verse 8: 23,000...

I. Israel's Privilege, 1-4

II. Israel's Punishment, 5

III. Israel's Pleasures, 6-10

Pleasures of sin (Hb.11:25)

- Lust, 6. Nu.11:4...34. 1 Co.7:2, 5.
- Idolatry, 7. Nu.25:2. 1 Co.6:9...
- Fornication, 8. Nu.25:1-8. 1 Co.5:1-2...
- Trying Christ, 9. Nu.14:22. 1 Co.10:22.
- Complaining, 10. Nu.14:2. 2 Co.12:20-21.

I. Israel's Privilege, 1-4

II. Israel's Punishment, 5

III. Israel's Pleasures, 6-10

IV. Israel's Pattern, 6,11

Pattern. . .

1. Model, example, pattern. “These things became our examples...”

Israel	Corinth
Ancient	Modern
Jews	Gentiles/diverse
Family of Godfearers	Pagans
Slaves	Slaves / Free
Farmers, cattle	City, seaport
Wilderness	Roman colony
Sand	Sea

Pattern. . .

1. Model, example, pattern. “These things became our examples...”
2. An example, warning. Object lesson.
 - Object lesson: illustration of a moral or principle.
 - Nu.26:10, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up together with Korah when that company died, when the fire devoured two hundred and fifty men; and they became a sign.

Warning. . .

1. In spite of OT history, Paul's warnings, and spiritual gifts, Corinthians repeated Israel's sins and merited Israel's punishment.
2. "But I was baptized..."
 - No room for presumption, 1 Co.9:27

Explanation – Israel / Corinth did not fall because . . .

1. God did not do enough.

- a. Rescued them from Egypt, Ex.14-15
(1 Co.6:11).
- b. Revelation to Israel, Ex.19-20; Dt.6:24
(1 Co.14:6).
- c. Relationship – sons, Ex.19:5-6
(1 Co.12:13-14).
- d. Resources for Israel (cloud; water, 1-4)
(1 Co.6:11).

Explanation – Israel / Corinth did not fall because . . .

1. God did not do enough.

2. **God demanded too much.**

a. Joshua and Caleb... Nu.14.

b. We can do anything God requires.
2 Co.2:6-7.

Explanation – Israel / Corinth did not fall because . . .

1. God did not do enough.
2. God demanded too much.
3. God did not keep them from temptations too powerful to resist, v.13.
 - a. Temptation “common to man”: not unique.
 - b. God limits.
 - c. Us: way of escape. V.14; 9:27.

Israel: 6-10.
'People of God.'

Corinth: 1 Co.5:1.
Below society!

I. Israel's Privilege, 1-4

II. Israel's Punishment, 5

III. Israel's Pleasures, 6-10

IV. Israel's Pattern, 6-11

V. Paul's Parallels

Israel fell / Corinth is falling. Why?

- Let guard down, 1.
 - Once saved, slacked off (5ff.)
 - 1 Co.6:11

Israel fell / Corinth is falling. Why?

- Let guard down, 1.
- **Did not take sin seriously, 6-10 (7)**
 - 'Eat, drink, be merry...'

Israel fell / Corinth is falling. Why?

- Let guard down, 1.
- Did not take sin seriously, 6-10 (7)
- **Did not take God seriously, 9 (tempt)**
 - Mistook love for license.
 - 'God wants me to be happy'
 - Ac.5:9, try His patience...

Israel fell / Corinth is falling. Why?

- Let guard down, 1.
- Did not take sin seriously, 6-10 (7)
- Did not take God seriously, 9 (tempt)
- **Did not learn from sins of others, 11.**
 - “Those who don’t study the past will repeat its errors...”

Israel fell / Corinth is falling. Why?

- Let guard down, 1.
- Did not take sin seriously, 6-10 (7)
- Did not take God seriously, 9 (tempt)
- Did not learn from sins of others, 11.
- **Overconfidence**, 12.
 - One who stands can fall.

Israel fell / Corinth is falling. Why?

- Let guard down, 1.
- Did not take sin seriously, 6-10 (7)
- Did not take God seriously, 9 (tempt)
- Did not learn from sins of others, 11.
- Overconfidence, 12.
- **Did not exercise self-control, 13-14.**
 - Past salvation did not save them from sinful cravings.
 - Ga.5:17

