

- I) V1-5 INTRO: **Brethren** I do not want you to be **unaware** (ignorant) that all our **REVIEW**
- II) In Ch 8, Paul set forth the principle of Christian liberty  
There he contrasted license, legalism, liberty, and love  
1 Co 8:9 **gave the boundaries**: all things were to be done through **Christian love**
- III) Ch 9 illustrated for us how **the principle of love** works in real life  
Though he could receive support, he was willing to serve without it from them  
This was out of love, because his **primary concern** was to win souls for Christ  
**WITH THIS IN MIND**
- IV) Ch 8 and 9 illustrate how our exercise of freedom in Christ affects **others**  
**AT THIS POINT**
- V) Ch 10 illustrates how our use of liberty affects **our own lives**  
**10:12 IS THE MAIN POINT**
- VI) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall  
**Overconfidence** in your own abilities will inevitably lead you to fall  
Pr 29:23 A man's pride shall bring him low: but honor shall uphold the humble  
in spirit  
**WHAT IS HIS CONCERN**
- VII) The Corinthians were in danger of thinking they were **beyond stumbling**  
They were saved, baptized, well taught, spirit-filled, and maturing in their faith
- VIII) Many thought that they had **arrived** at full spiritual maturity  
**REMEMBER WHAT PAUL WROTE**
- IX) 1 Co 1:7 You have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return  
of our Lord Jesus Christ  
**SADLY**
- X) Some considered themselves very mature and beyond **temptation**
- XI) Paul had closed ch 9 by encouraging them to remain disciplined in their faith  
He said that ran his race and fought the fight of faith with a mind to win  
Phil 3:13-14 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I  
do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which  
are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus
- XII) 1 Co 9:27 He said I **discipline** my body, (**literally I bruise my body**)  
This was to illustrate the war he fought against the inclinations of his flesh

- I) He not only was conquering his flesh, but was making it a captive  
He was not going to be a servant of his desires, but was conquering them  
He would not be led by his desires, but would be master of his desires
- II) He is emphasizing the depth of the struggle and the fight  
To win the fight requires total commitment to victory over sin's draw  
Heb 12:4 In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.  
**WITH THIS IN MIND**
- III) He illustrates his exhortation by using examples from Jewish history  
He shares how the nation had many privileges, but had **failed to remain faithful**
- IV) V1 Moreover brethren I do not want you to be unaware that **all our fathers**  
**AGAIN**
- V) Paul had written that he did not want to be **disqualified** (9:27)  
He wanted to remain usable by the Lord **because pride disqualifies** from service  
Pr 18:12 Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor  
**TO DEVELOP THIS**
- VI) Paul uses ancient Israel as an illustration  
He refers to incidents from Israel's 40 year wandering in the wilderness
- VII) V1 Moreover brethren, I do not want you **to be unaware** that all our fathers  
**Point: Don't ignore the lessons of the past**
- VIII) Israel had privileges but many did not appreciate and understand their value  
They didn't fully understand the origin of their blessings  
They didn't **by faith** realize that these blessings were provided by God  
**AT THIS POINT**
- IX) He gives reminders from Israel's history  
These were people who were blessed by God with many spiritual blessings  
God provided for them, but they did not comprehend His commands
- X) As he rehearses the history of Israel he intends to communicate three key things  
**First:** All of Israel experienced gracious deliverance from **physical bondage**  
**Second:** Those benefits were **spiritual in nature**  
**Third:** In reality, those benefits **all came from Jesus**  
**KEY**

- I) The **reaching out to deliver** was initiated by God and motivated by *His grace*  
**FIRST**
- II) V1 **All our fathers** were under the cloud, **all** passed through the sea  
He is writing **as a Jew** to Gentiles who are included in God's blessings
- III) **All** Jews were **physical descendants** of Abraham, but he is writing **to Gentiles**  
Through faith in Jesus, they are now Abraham's **spiritual descendants**  
Ro 4:11 He received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of **all who believe** but **have not been circumcised**, in order that righteousness might be credited to them.  
Gal 3:7 Therefore know that **only those** who are of faith are **sons of Abraham**  
**INTERESTINGLY**
- IV) In the first 4 verses, he uses the word **all** 5 times  
This shows oneness in experience; the nation **together** experienced these events  
**FIRST**
- V) V1 **All** were under the cloud (God delivered the nation: believer and unbeliever)  
God provided protection for the Jews when they fled Egypt  
Ex 13:21 By day the LORD went ahead of them in a **pillar of cloud** to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.  
Ex 14:20 The cloud settled between the Egyptian and Israelite camps. As darkness fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians and Israelites did not approach each other all night.  
**SECOND**
- VI) **All** passed through the sea: With no distinction, God brought them all to safety  
God opened up a way through the Red Sea  
Ex 14:21-22 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.  
**THIRD**
- VII) **All** were *baptized* into Moses: Identified with the faith he delivered to them  
Ex 14:31 And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in Him and **in Moses His servant**.  
**FOURTH**
- VIII) **All** ate the spiritual food (Manna, manifesting God's grace to provide bread of life)

I) Ex 16:15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is *manna*: for they knew not what it was. And Moses said to them, This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat.

**JESUS IS BREAD**

II) Jn 6:31-35 Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." "Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread." Then Jesus declared, "*I am the bread of life*. He who comes to me will never *go hungry*, and he who believes in me will *never be thirsty*."

**FIFTH**

III) V4 And all drank *the same spiritual drink*

This occurred at Horeb (desert), also called Mt Sinai)

Ex 17:6 I will stand before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and *you shall smite the rock*, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

**NOTICE WHAT PAUL SAYS**

IV) V4 *That Rock* was Christ

The presence of Jesus: protecting, guiding, *being smitten*, refreshing them

Jn 7:37-38 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

**FACT IS**

V) V5 But with most of them God was not well pleased (Only Joshua and Caleb)

*Notice their behavior* under the heading of *rejecting God*

They all left Egypt, they all were under God's protection, they all passed through the Red Sea, they all were baptized into Moses, they all ate the spiritual food, they all drank the same spiritual drink but *with most* of them, God was not well pleased

VI) But with most of them God was not pleased because they journeyed in unbelief

Heb 3:19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

Heb. 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

VII) **Point:** Though deliverance was offered, their hearts remained in Egypt

- I) V6 Now these things became **our examples** to the intent that we should not lust  
Their unbelief, if the face of so much opportunity, serves as a warning  
Do not long to be satisfied by the things of the world  
**HIS WARNING**
- II) They are being drawn to the eating, drinking, and fornication practiced in idolatry
- III) V7-9 And **do not become idolaters** as were some of them As it is written The  
He tells us that they did four things  
**FIRST**
- IV) V7 They became **idolaters** constructing and dancing before the golden calf  
Ex 32:1-6, 15-28  
**SECOND**
- V) V8 **Fornicated** (*unlawful sexual intercourse*)  
Nu 25:1-3 While Israel was staying in Acacia grove, the men began to indulge in  
sexual immorality with Moabite women, who invited them to the sacrifices to their gods.  
The people ate and bowed down before these gods. So Israel yoked themselves to the  
Baal of Peor. And the Lord's anger burned against them.  
**THIRD**
- VI) V9 They tempted Christ and were destroyed by serpents  
They tempted Jesus by not trusting the Lord to provide for them  
Nu 21:5-6 they spoke against *God* and against *Moses*, and said, "Why have you  
brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water!  
And we detest this miserable food!" Then **the LORD sent** venomous snakes among  
them; they bit the people and many Israelites died.
- VII) Nu 21:9 Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a  
serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.
- VIII) The serpent brought death, so Moses made a bronze symbol of the serpent  
As they looked at the serpent, they understood it was a picture of their judgment
- IX) By obediently looking at the serpent, they understood their judgment  
They also understood their source of healing: God
- X) Many years later Jesus used this as an illustration while speaking to Nicodemus  
Jn 3:14-15 As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the  
Son of Man be lifted up so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.

- I) **FOURTH**
- II) V10 **No murmuring**, which speaks of grumbling and complaining  
Nu 16: Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and 250 leaders and influential followers rebelled against Moses, accusing him of setting himself above the Lord's assembly
- III) As a result were judged by God  
The earth opened up and swallowed Korah, Dathan and Abiram; fire consumed the 250 influential leaders, and a plague killed 14,700 of their sympathizers  
**WHY THIS PARTICULAR WARNING**
- IV) The Corinthians were in danger of duplicating this sin, also  
People challenged Paul even as Korah challenged Moses (1 Co 9:1-2)
- V) Under the influence of the false apostles, some were rejecting Paul  
The only thing that can undermine the church is the church itself
- VI) **God hates murmuring** because it is divisive  
Pr. 6:16-19 These six things does the LORD hate: yes, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that devises wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaks lies, and he that sows discord among brethren.  
**HIS POINT**
- VII) The warning is simple: the Israelites longed for the things left behind in Egypt  
Egypt is a picture of the world, and their hearts remained in Egypt
- VIII) The Corinthians must not **long for** the things of their world  
Eating, drinking, and sexual sins are not to be longed for  
Instead of hungering for the old life, pursue the blessings of the new one
- IX) V11 All these things happened to them **as examples** and they were written for our  
These things happened to Israel and should serve to warn us  
We are nearing the completion of all things and should be alert  
**HIS POINT**
- X) V12-13 Therefore let him who **thinks (is confident) he stands** take heed lest he fall  
**Point:** Keep a close watch on yourself so do not become **overconfident**
- XI) Israel had great advantages, but not all were saved

- I) Do not take salvation for granted, keep close watch on your soul  
Take heed and walk carefully in this world of spiritual landmines  
Peter was very confident, and yet he stumbled in his walk with Jesus
- II) **Laodicea** was, and the church itself ultimately ceased to exist  
Rev 3:17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked--
- III) V13 No temptation has overtaken you  
You do not go through any unique inducements to sin
- IV) God has made a way of escape and strengthens you to endure and overcome  
Victory is available, but we must humbly reach out to Christ for it
- V) We will have times of testing, but we can overcome  
Ps 66:10 For You, O God, have proved us: You have tried us, as silver is tried.  
Pr 17:3 The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the LORD tries the hearts.