

Disqualified Outline

1st Corinthians 10:1-13

- I. The “Blessings” of being a Christian.
 - A. **“In [Christ] we have obtained an *inheritance*”** Ephesians 1:11
 - B. **“...Into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.”** 1st Peter 1:4
 - 1. Our inheritance in Christ is imperishable.
 - 2. Our inheritance in Christ is unspoiled.
 - 3. Our inheritance in Christ is unfading.
 - 4. Our inheritance in Christ is reserved.
- II. Paul’s message.
 - A. Because we have such a great inheritance, we must share the gospel with others.
 - 1. When others see us, they should see a picture of Christ.
 - 2. We are to become self-less—“a slave to all, so that I may win the more.” (9:19).
 - B. The Christian life is like running a race (9:24-27).
 - 1. We “run” the race to “win an imperishable wreath” – The imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.
 - 2. Running a successful race (living the Christian life) requires great “discipline”.
 - 3. Running a unsuccessful race results in being “disqualified”.
- III. Typology.
 - A. Verse 11 **Now these things happened to them as an example...** a “type”
 - B. “Type” = A prophetic symbol—a representation of a person, place or event in the future.
 - 1. A type goes from “lesser” to “greater” – “Incomplete” to “complete”
 - a. Noah and the flood a type of baptism—1st Peter 3:20-21.
 - b. Adam a type of Christ.
- IV. Israel in the wilderness as a *type* of the Christian life.

- A. Israel has been blessed by God (as Christians have been blessed by God).
 - 1. All had been set free from bondage (10:1).
 - 2. They had divine guidance (10:1).
 - 3. They received a new identity (10:2).
 - a. “**Baptized into Moses**” = Immersed, identified with Moses, their deliverer.
 - 4. They were sustained (10:3-4).
 - a. The manna from heaven, the “spiritual drink”—the rock of Jesus Christ.
 - b. A *type* of Lord’s Supper.
- V. BUT THEN—enter in human nature (10:5).
 - A. Most of Israel was struck down in the wilderness (all but two!) = Disqualified.
 - B. The five errors of Israel in the wilderness.
 - 1. They craved evil desires (10:6).
 - 2. Infested in idolatry (10:7).
 - 3. Indulged in sexual immorality (10:8).
 - 4. They tested the Lord (10:9).
 - 5. They were complainers—they grumbled (10:10).
 - C. These all happened as examples and warnings to us (10:11).
- VI. Two to take home.
 - A. Address your pride before it makes you fall (10:12).
 - B. God is faithful (10:13).
 - 1. Whatever temptation you may go through, it is NOT atypical!
 - 2. If you are “disqualified” it is your fault, not God’s!
 - 3. God will always provide a way of escape from the temptation.

“If there is one scrap of bread that you need as God’s child in order to keep your faith in the dungeon of starvation, you will have it. God does

not promise enough food for comfort or life—He promises enough so that you can trust Him and do His will.” -- John Piper

Disqualified Pastoral Notes

1st Corinthians 10:1-13

Week after week as we've been going through 1st Corinthians... the apostle Paul has been challenging us with some pretty serious teachings... vital teachings regarding living the Christian life... But we don't regularly remind ourselves the amazing blessings of being in Christ and the victory in life we have in Him... we could be tempted to think "*why bother with all this?*... it all sounds so...difficult.... So counter culture (where I live)... so counter to what is "natural"...my natural inclinations and affections... so counter to...everything!

For ten chapters Paul has been telling us that the world's wisdom is foolish... don't live out your fleshly desires...*don't walk like mere men*... become considered foolish in this age... be a servant of Christ... a slave....you're not your own...

Don't be puffed up thinking you're much... everything you have is from the Lord... be imitators of Christ... even if it means death... abstain from sex outside of marriage... don't even think about it... don't even associate with sexually immoral people...[brothers and sisters in Christ]

Don't take your brother to court... your body is not your own... you have been bought by a price... your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit...stay single., don't marry that is good but if you can't abstain from sexual immorality get married that is good... you are free in Christ... you have liberty in Christ.... But even though all things are lawful.... Not all things are profitable...

So consider others before you consider yourself when it comes to your liberty... be self-less...

Man.. this is a lot!...especially in a society that is so counter to all of that... and we're not close to being finished... so what about the blessings of living the Christian life?... why do all this?...for a moment let's remind ourselves... We as Christians have countless blessings.... Daily... but the greatest blessing is all about our inheritance... our great hope we have ONLY in Christ Jesus...

Ephesians 1:11 says, "**In [Christ] we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will**"

Colossians 3:23-24 **Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord and not for people, 24 knowing that it is from the Lord that you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve....** (in serving the Lord you will serve others... it's a priority issue.)

Our inheritance is, in a word, heaven. It is the sum total of all God has promised us in salvation.

1st Peter 1:4 describes this inheritance further, saying that we have been born again "**into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.**" According to the apostle Peter, our inheritance is distinguished by four important qualities:

1. Our inheritance in Christ is imperishable. What we have in Christ is not subject to corruption or decay. In contrast, everything on earth is in the process of decaying, rusting, or falling apart. The law of entropy affects our houses, our cars, and even our own bodies. Our treasure in heaven, though, is unaffected by entropy (Matthew 6:19–20). Those who have been born again are born "**not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God**" (1 Peter 1:23).

2. Our inheritance in Christ is unspoiled. What we have in Christ is free from anything that would deform, debase, or degrade. Nothing on earth is perfect. Even the most beautiful things of this world are flawed; if we look closely enough, we can always find an imperfection.

But Christ is truly perfect. He is "holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens" (Hebrews 7:26), and our inheritance in Him is also holy, blameless, exalted, and pure. No earthly corruption or weakness can touch what God has bestowed.

3. Our inheritance in Christ is unfading. What we have in Christ is an enduring possession. As creatures of this world, it is hard for us to imagine colors that never fade, excitement that never flags, or value that never depreciates; but our inheritance is not of this world. Its glorious intensity will never diminish. God says, "I am making everything new!" (Revelation 21:5).

4. Our inheritance in Christ is reserved. What we have in Christ is being "kept" in heaven for us. Your crown of glory [imperishable crown] has your name on it. Although we enjoy many blessings as children of God here on earth, our true inheritance—our true home—is reserved for us in heaven.

So what the apostle Paul has been trying to get us all to see is that now that we have this inheritance... the things we were pursuing before we became Christians are no longer anything of true value to be pursuing... what is of true value is to share this inheritance with as many people as possible....

Since our salvation... our trajectory has changed... we are headed for heaven... a place for us is secured... so now we are to share the gospel... the good news of Jesus Christ and live lives that honor and please our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...

When others see us they should see Christ... that's our challenge as believers in Christ... That is the answer to "why" we have been challenged through these words of Paul in 1st Corinthians.

We've come to chapter ten... what began in chapter eight... continued in chapter nine, reaches the conclusion in chapter ten... The Corinthian church had begun asking some questions to Paul that revealed much about their spiritual condition...

Realizing they were "free in Christ"...they were not under the law...they recognized they now had great liberty... free from the dietary and sacrificial laws of the Old Covenant... What Paul recognized in their questions was that they had become or were becoming very self-centered Christians...more concerned about how much liberty they had than whether or not they might damage... through their liberty... another brother or sister's spiritual walk.

All of chapter nine, Paul presents to them his example of giving up his rights... his freedoms for the *sake of winning others to Christ*... over and over Paul says he does what he does **so that I may win more...**

And he ended by showing us that living like that... requires selflessness... it requires becoming a "slave to others"... and it requires much personal discipline... he compared the Christian life to running a race...

Read 9:24-27 (Imperishable wreath = the imparted righteousness of Jesus Christ).

Those last six words (27) tie us into chapter ten... in fact... there really shouldn't be a chapter break after verse 27... the first word in chapter ten connects it to 9:27... *I go to all this discipline so that...I myself will not be disqualified... disqualified.* Chapter ten illustrates for us what being "disqualified" looks like.

We all should be interested in this... if you are listening to this... you don't want to be disqualified...to illustrate and teach us about disqualification... Paul takes the Corinthians and us back to the greatest illustration of disqualification in history... in the Old Testament...Israel in the wilderness...

To understand this passage to its fullest... we must all know something about what is called "typology"... or a "type"... look down to verse 11...

Read verse 11

First of all this is telling us the Old Testament IS important... it is relevant to us today... we should not as some suggest "unhitch from the Old Testament"... the Old Testament is full of "typology"...

Now these things happened as an *example*... tupos...[too-pos] or typikos...[tipe-ikos] a type.

When you begin to recognize the typology in the Bible... especially the connection between the Old and New Testament... you are going to start saying things in your mind like... *WOW! Only God could have put all this together!*...types are not accidents... they were planned by God to be there for our understanding...helps us to understand God's progressive revelation.

Typology is a special kind of symbolism. (A symbol is something that represents something else.) We can define a type as a “prophetic symbol” because all types are representations of something yet future.

More specifically, a type in Scripture is a person or thing in the Old Testament that foreshadows a person or thing in the New Testament. For example, the flood of Noah’s day (Genesis 6—7) is used as a type of baptism in 1 Peter 3:20–21. The word for “type” that Peter uses is *figure*.

1 Peter 3:20-21

20 ...when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were *brought safely through the water*. 21 *Corresponding to that*, anti-tupos...a type...a picture of a **baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...a picture of being indwelt by the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation...a picture of salvation...**

Also important is... that typology goes from lesser to greater... incomplete to complete...what is revealed in the Old Testament is the incomplete of what will be completed in the New Testament... Adam is a very incomplete “type” of Christ.... Christ is the completed type.

So Paul uses Israel and its exile from Egypt as *a type* of the Christian life to show us what being disqualified is all about... nobody was more disqualified than Israel... We’ll work this out as we go.

Paul lays this out very logically and simple... ***he shows us four “blessings” of Israel***...just as I began this message this morning with the blessings of the Christian life...[make the correlation!] ***and five abuses of those blessings by Israel***...resulting in disqualification... blessings and abuses... all Christians have been given blessings from God... and how you live your life within these blessings will determine if you run the race to victory or end up *disqualified*...

[First... what does disqualified mean?... what does it refer to?... Some say it simply means that if Paul was “disqualified” he relinquished his spiritual rewards...has nothing to do with his salvation...

I believe “disqualification” here is speaking of salvation... winning the race is to receive the imperishable wreath... to loose the race is to not receive the imperishable wreath... Paul is showing us now... that once we are truly saved... truly IN CHRIST... we will do everything we can to live a life pleasing to Him...

We won't do it perfectly... we will have failures.... But we will "press on"... our pressing on is evidence of our salvation... to be disqualified is our NOT PRESSING ON but rather yielding to a life of sin resulting in apostasy].... So much we could say...back to Israel:

Many don't realize that Israel had a ministry... they existed as God's people not just to be obedient to His laws... they actually had a mission by God... they were to be a witness for the true and living God to the world...

Israel had been in bondage to Egypt for 430 years according to Exodus... God was set to free them under the leadership of Moses... one of the jobs Israel was to do when they reached the promised land was to represent God as His witnesses to the pagan nations...

Isaiah 49:6 Speaking of Israel:

I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

Just before they were set free... one of the greatest "types" in all of the Bible was the first Passover... we just spent much time on the Passover a couple of months ago... the last of the plagues was ready to fall on Egypt... and everyone in Egypt...

The angel sent from God was to visit every house and kill all the first born... except for who?... those who had blood from a sacrificed lamb spread on the doorpost... that of course is a *type* of Jesus Christ who was the perfect sacrificial lamb of God who shed his blood to save many.... That's typology at its best.

After the Passover Israel is ready to exit Egypt and they do so in haste... this is how Paul describes it...

Read 10:1-4

"**All**" is an important word in those four verses... that means "everybody" received the same blessings from God...let's list them here...Paul lists four of them...

1. All were set free from bondage... They ALL passed through the sea... Exodus 14... listen to this [we haven't been in the O.T. for awhile!]

1 Then Moses reached out with his hand over the sea; and the Lord swept the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. 22 So the sons of Israel went through the midst of the sea on the dry land, and the waters were like a wall to them on their right and on their left. 23 Then the Egyptians took up the pursuit, and all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen went in after them into the midst of the sea.

Egypt is often seen as a *type* of the world...our sinful world... before Christ we are in captivity to the lusts of the world... through the blood of Jesus Christ we have been emancipated... set free from bondage.

2 Peter 1:4 ... **He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world on account of lust.**

Israel is freed from bondage to Egypt... we are free from the bondage of sin in the world.

2. They had divine guidance...

Read verse 1

They were all under the cloud... the same cloud... Exodus 13 tells us that **the Lord went before them in a pillar of cloud by day to guide them and a pillar of fire by night...**they were ALL under the glory cloud of God....

The Christian is under the divine guidance of Holy Spirit through God's word... what a blessing!

3. They received a new "identity"...

Read verse 2

What does that mean?... everybody likes to argue about this... *being baptized into Moses*... one of my Presbyterian commentators said this verse is an embarrassment to Baptists...who have a hard time explaining that... *yes... Israel went through the sea... but they didn't get wet!*... they were on dry land...they DIDN'T GET IMMERSSED...poor Baptists!...this doesn't help the Presbyterian position on Baptism either!... NO WATER SPRINKLED OR DUNKED...NADA!

Baptism is its original Greek [Baptizo] means "to dip, plunge or *immerse*." It is used in secular Greek of dyeing a garment, immersing it so that it is thoroughly covered. It is also used to describe a boat that has sunk beneath the water.

[by the way... There are other Greek words for sprinkling and pouring...just saying!]

In the Bible there are seven different baptisms mentioned... I won't go through all of them... but here's a few... *The Baptism of John*... John the Baptist... before Jesus was on the scene... John was baptizing a *baptism of repentance*... and everyone who got baptized by John were showing their alignment with John's message... they identified as disciples of what John was preaching... and their need to repent for their sins.

In Matthew *The Baptism of Fire* is mentioned... John had prophesied that Jesus would baptize men with fire.... Meaning... Jesus is going to judge the world for its sin.... You don't want to be baptized with fire!

Two of the seven Baptisms are very significant... **the Baptism of the Holy Spirit** which is a spiritual baptism... at salvation we are immersed in the Holy Spirit... the Spirit covers us... indwells us and at that moment we become a part of the spiritual body of Christ.

And **Believers Baptism**...the baptism of believers...we have been immersed in Christ...by the Holy Spirit...and now... immersion into water to symbolize the action of the Holy Spirit in one's heart...it is a profession of faith for what Christ has done... we are saved... we are buried with Christ... we rise with Christ to newness of life... our sins are washed away... we are cleansed. Holy Spirit baptism saves us... water baptism is an outward expression, a testimony of our salvation.....

So.... **Baptized into Moses**?... simply means being "immersed into Moses"... Or better... "**identified with Moses**"...NOBODY GETS WET HERE!...much like the Baptism of John the Baptist...Moses in effect was their deliverer... a type of Christ...

Paul sees the parallel... the Jews were led by Moses toward the Promised Land of blessing and reward as God's Old Covenant people...so believers in Christ are led to the promised heavenly land as God's New Covenant people...the Jews had great blessing from God as we have great blessings from God....

The lesser to the greater in types.

1. They were set free from bondage... 2. they had divine guidance...3. they received a new identity.

4. They were "sustained"...

Read verse 3

Not everyone agrees with this picture... but I think they should... what was the *spiritual food* provided to Israel in the wilderness?... Exodus 16...God provided **manna** (breadish) from heaven every single day..... how long did God do that?.....how long did God provide?.....40 years!...for 40 years they didn't have to go to Safeway...

I join those who believe this is the beginning of another type...*the Lord's Supper*... add to the manna... the bread...

Read verse 4

They have the bread.... They have the cup... what about this spiritual rock?...I think it goes back to Moses providing for his people water out of a rock... Exodus 17.... Do rocks normally give out water?... of course not!

This rock is from God... His provisions for a thirsty nation wandering the desert.... Of course... Christ is our rock.. right?... Paul says the rock in the wilderness WAS Jesus Christ!...this tells me

that Christ was present back when Israel was wandering in the wilderness... the supernatural pre-incarnate Christ!...and what did He do?... He took care of them!...He sustained them!

The picture for us is that Jesus takes care of us... but not temporarily as we go through this earth but eternally... the lesser to the greater....four blessings.

BUT THEN... ENTER HUMAN NATURE....

Read verse 5

Most of them?..... Most of them?...Paul is being generous... if you know the story... it would be better put as ALL OF THEM EXCEPT 2...can you name them?..... Joshua and Caleb....this is a hammer blow.

We read those blessings... and maybe its because we've heard the stories that they've become hohum... but in light of how God blessed Israel... and I hope you've been equating that to how God blesses us..... how in the world could a nation... thousands and thousands of people *abandon* the reality of God's blessing to them?

How do we know God was not "pleased" with them?...Numbers 14:16 says **Because the Lord was not able to bring this people into the land which He swore to give them, therefore... HE SLAUGHTERED THEM IN THE WILDERNESS... WHY?... THEY WERE DISQUALIFIED!**

What did that look like?... Numbers tells us that there were 603,550 of them that were soldiers... add women and children and other men to that figure... that would come out to be 2.5 million bodies rotting in the desert... that's the picture of "disqualification".

Now... put this in Paul's context... They ran in a way NOT to win... they claimed to be God's people... but everything in their lives said otherwise... God's people... if they had given their lives to God.. lived for Him... they would have won the prize...

What specifically did Israel do to become "disqualified"?.... Paul tells us....five things... Quickly:

Read verse 6

These things in the Old Testament were written so that you and me will not do the mistakes Israel made... so that we won't be... disqualified....the five errors of Israel in the wilderness.

1. They craved evil desires...(6)...Israel "set their hearts on evil"...

Numbers 11:4

4 Now the rabble who were among them had greedy cravings; and the sons of Israel also wept again and said, "Who will give us meat to eat?"

Interesting... Israel with their evil desires ‘craved’ meat... I think meat was an issue with Corinth?

Psalm 106:14

**14 But they became lustfully greedy in the wilderness,
And put God to the test in the desert.**

God’s been providing all your needs... and yet... as the flesh works... it always lacks... always desires more... always is unsatisfied... how’d it end with Israel?

2. Infested in idolatry.

Read verse 7

Paul is referring to Exodus 32... specifically verse 6... While Moses is on Mt. Sinai... Israel melts down their rings, jewelry, and forms a golden calf...and then they threw a feast in honor of Yahweh... the true God... now depicted by a golden calf idol!... they ate, drank and played...

Some translations say they were partying naked... all this was a complete mockery of the only true God...and they paid dearly for it...through Levi... God had three thousand of them struck dead...just like that... in one day!...Disqualified!

I’m sure this resonated to the Corinthian church who was surrounded by little ‘g’ gods...idols... *is it ok to eat meat offered to idols?*

3. Indulged in sexual immorality.

Read verse 8

Read all about it in Numbers 25... bottom line?... take up a lifestyle of sexual immorality... I mean lifestyle... no conscience... no hesitation... just raved indulgences in sexual immorality... results in?

Well... for Israel... 23,000 killed in one day...corpses... DISQUALIFIED!

4. They tested the Lord.

Read verse 9

How do you ‘test the Lord’?... By trying to get away with as much as you can...How far you can push God before He acts...His grace... testing His patience... *nothing happened when I did all those “little sins”*... so you push more...

Numbers 21 is the picture of sinful Israel...they “tested the Lord”... so the Lord sent fiery serpents among them and many were destroyed... DISQUALIFIED.

5. They grumbled.

Read verse 10

Israel were complainers...they complained about the blessings given to them from God... the food... the water... God's sustaining provisions.... Grumble, grumble.... Guess what happened to the grumblers?... 14700 died from grumbling...

Not a pleasant death... God sent *Mash-chith* ...the judgement angel... the same one who slew the 1st born in Egypt...and several other slayings in the Old Testament.

corpses... DISQUALIFIED!

Read verse 11

These all took place in the early stages of God's revelation... but we are now near the end... **the end of the ages have arrived**...all these things were types... partial pictures... incomplete representations of what has been revealed to us in these "last days".

Chapter ten has been a history lesson to us... Most of what were to be God's representatives to the lost world... millions of them were DISQUALIFIED... "*Give me some help!... I don't want to be "disqualified"!*"

Two truths to take home...

1. Address your pride before it makes you fall!...before it leads you to disqualification!... DON'T OVER ESTIMATE YOUR SPIRITUAL STRENGTH... you are NOT strong enough to take your freedom to the edge... to the "limit"... *I'm too strong in my faith to fall...*

No... you're not!... if you were strong enough you would have known better to have said that!

If I think I am strong enough in my faith, I think that I am strong... I am only strong enough in my faith when I know I am not strong enough.... On my own!

My strength is perfect in weakness: 2 Corinthians 12:9–10. **But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.**

Pursue holiness!... do not try to get as close to unholiness as you can....

2. God is faithful

You probably know this verse.... Bask in it.... you can pursue that holiness... you can be victorious... you can make it because...God is faithful.

Read verse 13

God knows how much you can take... and when temptation comes.... AND IT WILL!... first understand you are not in a unique situation... the temptation you may go through or are going through might be new to you.... But it is NOT ATYPICAL... it's not EXTRAORDINARY... people everywhere... throughout history have dealt with your temptation!

GOD IS FAITHFUL.... HE WILL NOT ABANDON YOU... HE DID NOT ABANDON ISRAEL!!! ISRAEL ABANDONED GOD!

God will NOT allow the temptation to surpass your ability to have victory over it... SO IF YOU BLOW IT... YOU CAN'T BLAME GOD!... YOU HAVE TO BLAME YOURSELF!

Resist temptation.... And God being faithful.... Will always provide you with a “way of escape”...**so that you will be able to endure it!**

In other words... nobody is doomed by god to be disqualified... you do it all by yourself!

“If there is one scrap of bread that you need as God’s child in order to keep your faith in the dungeon of starvation, you will have it. God does not promise enough food for comfort or life—He promises enough so that you can trust Him and do His will.” -- John Piper