

1 Corinthians 10

Jesus

1 Corinthians 9:24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? **Run in such a way that you may obtain it.**

The church of God in Corinth set knowledge above love
The more we know, the more we *should* realize how much we don't know...

I. Old Testament Examples

1 Moreover, brethren, **I do not want you to be unaware** that all our fathers were **under the cloud**, all **passed through the sea**, 2 all were **baptized into Moses** in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all **ate the same spiritual food**, 4 and all **drank the same spiritual drink**.

To the intellectual Grecian Corinthian Church:
Jewish His-tory can teach you a thing or two...

- **History of Israel:** 1446-1500 BC

1. Following cloud by day/Pillar of fire by night
2. Passed through the Red Sea [Baptism]
3. Ate Spiritual Food: Manna from Heaven
4. Drank Spiritual Drink...

4b ...For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that **Rock was Christ.**

Exodus 17:b [God to Moses] ...you shall strike the rock, and **water will come out of it**, that the people may drink."

That Rock was a picture of Jesus Christ
Immovable/Immutable...Unchanging/Constant

Deuteronomy 32:4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.

Psalm 18:1 I will love You, O Lord, my strength. 2 The **Lord is my rock** and **my fortress** and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psalm 62:6 He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. 7 In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God.

Jesus Christ the Rock. Our Rock.
Struck once for us/Sending to us the Living Water of His Spirit

Isaiah 44:3 For I will **pour water** on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour **My Spirit** on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring...

Jeremiah 2:13b ...They have forsaken Me, the **fountain of living waters**, And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Zechariah 14:8 ...in that day it shall be That **living waters shall flow from Jerusalem...**

John 7:37b ...Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "**If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.** 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, **out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**" 39 But this He spoke **concerning the Spirit**, whom those believing in Him would receive

John 4:10 [Jesus to Samaritan woman] If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him/He would have given you **living water.**

- **Holy Spirit:** Living Water/Repentance/Restoration/Refreshing

Jesus leading/Providing for Israel. In the Pillar/In the Flame/Through the Sea.
Bread from Heaven/Water from the Rock

- **His-Story** demonstrated in the History of Israel...

Hebrews 10:7b In the **volume of the book it is written of Me—**

All Israel drank of that Spiritual Rock...That Rock was Christ.

5 But **with most of them God** was not well pleased, for their **bodies were scattered** in the wilderness.

God had provided Supernatural Provision...

Nehemiah 9:15 You gave them **bread from heaven for their hunger**, And brought them **water out of the rock for their thirst**, And told them to go in to possess the land Which You had sworn to give them ...**20** You also **gave Your good Spirit** to instruct them, And did not withhold Your manna from their mouth, And **gave them water for their thirst.**

Psalms 78:24 Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.

God provided for all their needs
Yet only Joshua/Caleb and the children entered into the Promise

Numbers 26:65 For the Lord had said of them, "They shall surely die in the wilderness." So there was not left a man of them, except **Caleb...and Joshua....**

Why? Lack of Faith combined w/an Abundance of Whining/Complaining

Numbers 14:29 [You brought us out to kill our children. Really?...] The carcasses of you who have **complained against Me** shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above...

God provided...They whined...God was angry...They died

Hebrews 3:17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose **corpses fell in the wilderness?**

Jude 5 ... the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward **destroyed those who did not believe.**

Ingratitude led to whining. Whining to unbelief. Unbelief to not missing the Promise
Just the story of/for the Jews right?

6 Now these things **became our examples**, to the intent that **we should not lust** after evil things as they also lusted. 7 E.g... do not become **idolaters** as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." 8 Nor let us commit **sexual immorality**, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; 9 nor let us **tempt Christ**, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; 10 **nor complain**, as some of them **also complained**, and **were destroyed by the destroyer.**

OT: Physical Examples of NT Spiritual Truths
Here: Things to watch for in our hearts

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| ▪ Lust | Ingratitude for God's provision |
| ▪ Idolatry | Turning to the world to get what we want |
| ▪ Immorality | Seeking perverse pleasure above God |
| ▪ Testing God | Presumptuous sin tempting God to act |
| ▪ Complaining | Against God becoming worse and worse... |

Psalms 106:14 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, And **tested God** in the desert.

Numbers 21:5 [To Moses]... "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is **no food and no water**, and **our soul loathes this worthless bread.**" 6 So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and **many of the people of Israel died...**

Paul warns Corinth of the consequences/End result of this godless attitude
IOWs If it happened to them it can surely happen to you...

11 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.

Written as examples to us/For our Admonition, i.e. Instruction 3500 yrs. later
They thought they would be okay but were self-deceived...What about us?

12 Therefore **let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.**

Pride comes before destruction

Romans 15:4 For **whatever things were written before were written for our learning**, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

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**.

Israel always had a way of escape: Trust God when things get hard
We always have a way of escape when things get hard/being tested tempted
Continue trusting the Rock when things get hard/When tests come

- **Q.** What tests do we today encounter? **A.** Same as Israel...
 1. **Lust:** Ingratitude for what God provides
 2. **Idolatry:** Turning to the world to get what we want
 3. **Immorality:** Seeking perverse pleasure
 4. **Testing God:** Presumptuous sin.
 5. **Complaining:** Against God

NOTE: Passing a test does not mean getting out of the test
But being able to bear the test graciously while in the midst of the test v13

1 Corinthians 1:9 [Paul began by trusting in God not them] **God is faithful**, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

God will not try us beyond the ability He gives us. Period.
He gives the ability to endure/Sure hope of victory as we trust Him. The Rock

Instead of turning *to God* in hard times Israel *turned against God*
Bodies Destroyed v10 / Bodies Scattered v5

They never saw the Promised Land
Never enjoyed the Spirit filled life God promised to those trust Him
Rather they turned to anything/everything else but God...

II. Flee Idolatry

14 **Therefore**, my beloved, **flee from idolatry**. 15 I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.

1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee sexual immorality.

When tempted...Flee from Idolatry
Idolatry: Putting Anything/Anyone above/in place of Jesus

- You guys are smart so...

1 John 5:21 Little children, **keep yourselves from idols**. Amen.

16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the **communion of the blood of Christ?** The bread which we break, is it not the **communion of the body of Christ?** 17 For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.

Communion: Intimacy with Jesus/Body of Christ

Matthew 26:26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is **My body**." 27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 For this is **My blood** of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Picture of becoming one with Christ and each other

IOWs We are not to have divided allegiance with idols. Jesus must be preeminent!

Luke 14:26 "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and mammon.**

- **Note:** When Jesus is preeminent all things fall into place
- **Seek first His Kingdom/His righteousness and all else will come together**

v11 Now all these things happened to Israel as examples
Written for our admonition...

18 Observe Israel after the flesh...

Observe how Israel fell to idolatry...

Numbers 25:1 Now Israel remained in Acacia Grove, and the people **began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab.** 2 They **invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods,** and the people **ate and bowed down to their gods.** 3 So Israel was **joined to Baal** of Peor, and the anger of the Lord was aroused against Israel. 4 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Take all the leaders of the people and hang the offenders before the Lord, out in the sun, that the fierce anger of the Lord may turn away from Israel." 5 So Moses said to the judges of Israel, "Every one of you kill his men who were joined to Baal of Peor." 6 And indeed, one of the children of Israel came and presented to his brethren a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. 7 Now when Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose from among the congregation and took a javelin in his hand; 8 and he **went after the man of Israel into the tent and thrust both of them through,** the man of Israel, and the woman through her body. So the plague was stopped among the children of Israel. 9 And those who died in the plague were twenty-four thousand.

- We should learn from others mistakes/Don't partake in what is pagan
- IOWs Avoid temptation by not going to places you will be tempted. Rocket science

18b ...Are not those who eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar?

Just as the Christian practice of communion speaks of unity and fellowship with Jesus, so these pagan banquets, given in the honor of idols, spoke of *unity with demons* who took advantage of misdirected worship. To eat at a pagan temple banquet was to have fellowship at the altar of idols. [Guzik]

Whoever's altar you partake of/Hang out at
That is the god you are communing with. Flee Idolatry

2 Corinthians 6:17 Therefore "**Come out from among them** And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you."

Have you become aware of a different god behind that activity?
If you continuing to partake it is idolatry/Open door to Satan

- Yoga
- Martial Arts
- Games: D/D. Role playing
- Buddhism in movies

Isaiah 2:5 O house of Jacob, come and let us **walk In the light of the Lord**. 6 For You have forsaken Your people, the house of Jacob, Because they are **filled with eastern ways**; They are **soothsayers like** the Philistines,

Continuing to partake after receiving knowledge...is idolatry
Putting our will above God's will is idolatry

19 What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything? 20 Rather, that **the things which the Gentiles sacrifice** they sacrifice **to demons** and not to God, and I do not want you to have **fellowship with demons**. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the **cup of demons**; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the **table of demons**. 22 Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

Gentiles knowingly sacrifice to demons and don't care
That was you BC

Galatians 4:8 ...when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods.

Gentiles knowingly sacrifice to demons and don't care
IOW As soon as we as Christians are made aware...Flee or go sideways

- **Sacrifice** to demons
- **Fellowship** with demons
- **Cup** of demons
- **Table** of demons

Deuteronomy 32:17 They sacrificed to demons, not to God, To gods they did not know, To **new gods, new arrivals** That your fathers did not fear. New not true/True not new

If you knowingly partake you provoke the LORD to Jealousy
Fighting against Jesus

Deuteronomy 32:21 They have **provoked Me to jealousy** by what is not God; They have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols.

Ezekiel 22:14 Can your heart endure, or can your hands remain strong, in the days **when I shall deal with you?** I, the Lord, have spoken, and will do it.

You will not win that fight.
Go sideways at best/Downward destruction most likely...with your family

Psalms 106:37 They even **sacrificed their sons** And their daughters **to demons...**

Do we give enough thought to things we partake in?
We are called to walk in the Light/Wisdom/Act accordingly

III. All to the Glory of God

23 All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify.

Freedom says yes/Wisdom says no

Though technically lawful....Is it helpful. If not why would I?
Though technically allowed...Will it build up? If not why should I?
More over: Is it by faith? If not it is sin
Do no harm is the fulfillment of the law...

24 Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's well-being.

Philippians 2:1 Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2 fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 **Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.** 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for **the interests of others.** 5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He **humbled Himself** and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;** 13 for it is **God who works in you** both to will and to do for His good pleasure. 14 Do all things **without complaining and disputing,** 15 that you may become **blameless and harmless,** children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you **shine as lights** in the world...

Let no one seek his own but the other's well-being

25 Eat whatever is sold in the meat market, asking no questions for conscience' sake; 26 for **"the earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness."**
[Psalm 24:1]

The Earth is the LORD's
Everything in it/Everything on it/Everything from it belongs to Him

1 Timothy 4:4 For every creature of God is good, and **nothing is to be refused** if it is received with thanksgiving...

27 If any of those who **do not believe invites you to dinner**, and you desire to go, **eat whatever is set before you**, asking no question for conscience' sake.

Regarding food offered to idols in the meat market:
Go/Buy/Take Home/Enjoy. *For the earth is the Lord's and all its fullness*

Regarding food offered by non-believers
Go/Eat/Enjoy *For the earth is the Lord's and all its fullness*

28 But if anyone says to you, **"This was offered to idols," do not eat it for the sake of the one who told you**, and for conscience' sake; for **"the earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness."**

Don't eat if they reveal they are inviting you into their pagan practice
For the earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness

29 "Conscience," I say, not your own, but **that of the other**. For why is my liberty judged by another man's conscience? 30 But if I partake with thanks, why am I evil spoken of for the food over which I give thanks?

- Don't eat for the sake of the one who invited/told you: That you might share the Truth
- Don't eat for the sake of the conscience of onlookers: Those still searching for Truth

Why? Because even if I give thanks I will not be immune to false accusations...

Romans 14:16 Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; 17 for the kingdom of **God is not eating and drinking**, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18 For he who serves Christ in these things is **acceptable to God and approved by men**.

Souls are far more important than my rights

1 Corinthians 9:19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that **I might win the more...**

31 Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God**. 32 **Give no offense**, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to

the church of God, 33 just as I also **please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.**

Do all you do/say/think to the Glory of God
God is glorified when we sacrificially love

Colossians 3:17 ...whatever you do in **word or deed**, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Whenever possible give no offense but...
Never at the expense of truth. Speak the truth w/love...but speak the truth

Galatians 1:9 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, **let him be accursed.** 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, **let him be accursed.** 10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or **do I seek to please men?** For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

Never fear offending with the Truth of Jesus. Why?
Because the earth is the Lord's and all its fullness

One Way. One Truth. One Life
Jesus our Rock. Immutable/Immovable. Unchanging/Constant