

"NOW CONCERNING"—

*Reply To Their Letter –
Liberty In Christ – 7:1-16:4*

Learning Lessons From History

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

QUESTIONS ABOUT THINGS OFFERED TO IDOLS – (8:I-II:I)

AN IMPORTANT ISSUE:
(ACTS 15:28,29; REV. 2:14,20)

- ✦ Meats offered to idols were used in the observance of pagan feast -
- ✦ Meats offered to idols were sold in the markets with other meat -
- ✦ These meats were purchased by individuals and thus used to entertain guest in their homes -



QUESTIONS ABOUT THINGS OFFERED TO IDOLS – (8:1-11:1)

AN IMPORTANT ISSUE:
(ACTS 15:28,29; REV. 2:14,20)

- ✦ Could a Christian attend a banquet in an idols temple? (10:14-18)
- ✦ Could a Christian eat meat sacrificed to idols that he inadvertently bought at the market? (10:25)
- ✦ Could a Christian eat meat sacrificed to an idol in the home of an unbelieving friend? (10:27,28)



QUESTIONS ABOUT THINGS OFFERED TO IDOLS – (8:I-II:I)

LESSONS FROM CHAPTERS 8 & 9

- ✦ Knowledge can puff up – but LOVE builds up – 8:1-3
- ✦ There is only one God – 8:4-7
- ✦ The importance of protecting the conscience – 8:7-8
- ✦ My primary concern in Christ is the brother for whom He died – 8:9-13



QUESTIONS ABOUT THINGS OFFERED TO IDOLS – (8:1-11:1)

LESSONS FROM CHAPTERS 8 & 9

- ✦ Paul, as an apostle, did not demand his “rights” - 9:1-3
- ✦ He refused to be supported for the furtherance of the gospel even though he had the right - 9:4-14
- ✦ Paul defended his "right" not to use his "rights": 9:15-23
- ✦ Self-control is demanded in the realm of personal liberty: 9:24-27



LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NKJV)

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

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NKJV)

⁵ But with most of them God was not well pleased, for *their bodies* were scattered in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. ⁷ And 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.*"

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NKJV)

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.

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NKJV)

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

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NKJV)

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*.

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

INTRODUCTION TO CHAPTER 10

- ◆ **Addressed to the strong** - While the consciences of the weak need to be strengthened - this chapter is a warning to the "strong" among the Corinthians who were arguing that they had the right to attend the feasts held in an idol's temple. (8:10)
- ◆ **Picking up the subject from chapter 9** - those who fail to exercise self-control, even in things morally indifferent, will fail to obtain the prize – (9:24-27)



LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



Mike Willis
Truth Commentary
pp. 313-314

INTRODUCTION TO CHAPTER 10

'At the back of this passage there lies the over-confidence of some of the Corinthian Christians. Their point of view was, "We have been baptized and we are therefore one with Jesus Christ; we have partaken of the Lord's Supper and therefore we have partaken of the body and blood of Christ; we are in Christ and Christ in us; therefore we are quite safe; we can eat meat offered to idols and take no harm; there is no possible danger for us." . . .

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



Mike Willis
Truth Commentary
pp. 313-314

INTRODUCTION TO CHAPTER 10

“ . . . By recalling the example of Israel, Paul showed that being recipients of special privileges did not guarantee one's salvation. Thus, he showed that Israel had received a "baptism" and a "supper" just the same as the Corinthians had; nevertheless, the greater portion of them were lost.' ”

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

Type

Egypt

Pharaoh

Moses (deliverer)

Israel

Moses (Law giver)

Cloud & Sea

Wilderness

Canaan

Antitype

The world

Satan

Jesus (deliverer)

The church

Jesus (Law giver)

Baptism

Christian life

Heaven

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)


THE SALVATION OF ISRAEL — (1-2)

- ✦ “Moreover” – Linking what has been said to what will be – (10:1; 9:24-27)
- ✦ 'ignorant'- unaware' (NASV)
phrase frequently used by Paul to stress the vital nature of a truth that he is about to state. (Rom 1:13; 1 Cor. 12:1; 2 Cor. 1:8; 1 Thess. 4:13)




LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

THE SALVATION OF ISRAEL — (1-2)

- 
- ◆ **'Our fathers'** - may be relating to those Christians of Jewish background - the Church is the 'Israel of God' (Gal 6:16; 3:27-28; Rom 4:11); in a sense these Jews were the ancestors of Gentile Christians too.
 - ◆ **'were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea'**-notice the stress on the word "all" in these verses. - *'God included "all"; if any of them were excluded and did not remain included, this was due wholly to their own action.'* (Lenski p. 390)

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

THE SALVATION OF ISRAEL — (1-2)

- 
- ◆ 'Were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea'- They were ALL saved from Egyptian bondage - (10:1; Exodus 13:21-22; 14:19-31; Numbers 14:14; Psa. 105:39)
 - ◆ 'Were all baptized unto Moses'- 'The passage of the Red Sea led Israel to fully accept Moses as their master and leader under God. (Exo 14:31)' (McGarvey p. 98)
 - ◆ As Christians are baptized "unto" Christ. (Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:27)

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

THE SALVATION OF ISRAEL — (1-2)

- ✦ Like our baptism, the baptism of the Israelites accomplished a deliverance from the land of bondage - (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21)
- ✦ Baptism is an act of faith. Entering the parted Sea took a lot of faith in Moses' words. - Likewise, our baptism is that final step of trust in God before salvation is obtained. It constitutes the line between a professed believer and a true believer. (Acts 2:41; Rom 10:14-17)



LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

ISRAEL'S SUSTENANCE — (3-4)

- ◆ 'And did all eat the same spiritual food'-
God provided them with the necessities of life miraculously – (Exo 16; 17:1-7; Ps 78:35; Numbers 20:2-13)
- ◆ 'they drank of a spiritual rock that followed them: and the rock was Christ'
 - 'The imperfect tense denoting continued action—
 - Christ was the source of the water . . . as he is the source of supply for us today.'
(Robertson p. 152)



LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

APPLICATION — (3-4)

- ✦ Privileges, yes even spiritual privileges, do not guard one against falling into sin.
- ✦ Remember the generation that came out of bondage. They had a baptism too! They feasted on spiritual food and drink also (*as Christians have the Lord's Supper and Divine confirmation*), and they had Christ with them too!



LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:5
(NKJV)

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



LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



**1 Corinthians 10:6
(NKJV)**

**⁶Now these things
became our examples,
to the intent that we
should not lust after
evil things as they also
lusted.**

THE DANGER OF LUST - 10:6

- ✦ Probably a reference to the Israelites who desired meat and return to Egypt – Num 11:4,34; Acts 7:39
- ✦ The Corinthians faced a similar temptation – To partake in the idolatrous feasts, returning to their previous fellowship with idolatry.

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



**1 Corinthians 10:6
(NKJV)**

**⁶Now these things
became our examples,
to the intent that we
should not lust after
evil things as they also
lusted.**

THE DANGER OF LUST - 10:6

- ✦ What if we fulfill fleshly desires unlawfully - Mat 5:28; 1 Thes 4:5; 2 Peter 2:10;
- ✦ What if we walk in the works of darkness - Rom 13:13; Gal 5:16;
- ✦ What if we love the world and return to it - 1 John 2:15-17; 2 Pet 2:21,22

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



1 Corinthians 10:7
(NKJV)

7 And 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."*

DANGER OF IDOLATRY - 10:7

- ✦ The Israelites & the golden calf - Ex 32:6-20
- ✦ A problem for the church at Corinth - 10:14-22
- ✦ What are some ways that we could be guilty of idolatry?

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



**1 Corinthians 10:7
(NKJV)**

7 And 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.*"

DANGER OF IDOLATRY - 10:7

- ✦ "Covetousness" is idolatry -
Ep 5:5; Co 3:5
- ✦ Whenever we make any thing other than God our priority in life, we are guilty of idolatry -
1 John 2:15-17
- ✦ Our possessions - Our job -
Our fun - Our family - Our hobbies – etc.

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

DANGER OF FORNICATION - 10:8

- ✦ Refers to the Israelites committing whoredom with the daughters of Moab – Num 25:1-3
- ✦ Resulting in God's wrath being poured out on them by means of a plague - Num 25:4-9
- ✦ This fall was brought about by Balaam's strategic counsel to Balak – Num 31:16



**1 Corinthians 10:8
(NKJV)**

⁸ Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell;

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

DANGER OF FORNICATION - 10:8



**1 Corinthians 10:8
(NKJV)**

⁸ Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell;

- ✦ With fornication being a socially acceptable activity due to paganism – The Christians at Corinth were confronted constantly with this temptation.
- ✦ Fornication is socially acceptable today as well – we must give all care to avoid it!

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



**1 Corinthians 10:9
(NKJV)**

**⁹ nor let us tempt
Christ, as some of them
also tempted, and were
destroyed by serpents;**

DANGER OF TEMPTING CHRIST - 10:9

- ◆ 'make trial of the Lord'-'i.e. to see how far his patience will stretch or question if he means what he says.'
(F.F. Bruce p. 92)
- ◆ Israel Put Christ to the test to see how far His patience would go – Thus - the fiery serpents Numbers 21:4-9
- ◆ We can "test" God, try His patience by pressing for our "rights".
Dissatisfaction with what God has given you, is trying the Lord!

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



**1 Corinthians 10:9
(NKJV)**

**⁹ nor let us tempt
Christ, as some of them
also tempted, and were
destroyed by serpents;**

DANGER OF TEMPTING CHRIST - 10:9

- ✦ Could we become unsatisfied with the spiritual blessings promised in Christ and long for materialism?
- ✦ Could we become dissatisfied with the spiritual work that God has given the church to do and pursue secular work?
- ✦ Could we become dissatisfied with the worship God has prescribed and seek worship styles that please us instead?

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



**1 Corinthians 10:10
(NKJV)**

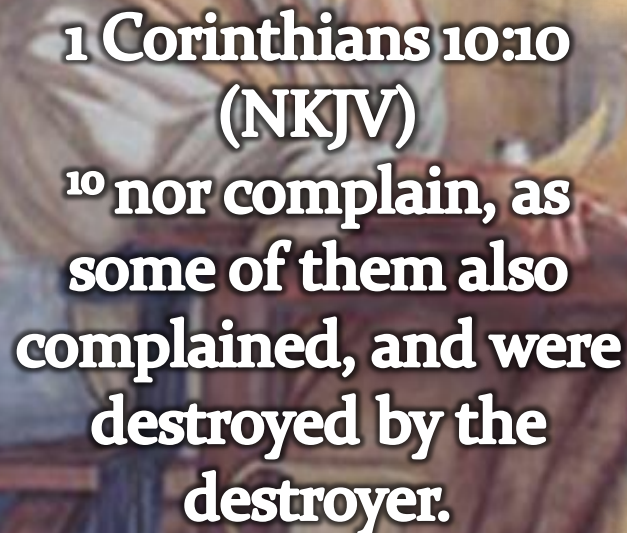
**¹⁰ nor complain, as
some of them also
complained, and were
destroyed by the
destroyer.**

DANGER OF COMPLAINING — 10:10

- ✦ Because of their dissatisfaction with God's dealings with them – Complaining was a frequent problem in the wilderness. (Exod. 15:24; 16:2ff; 17:3; Numb. 11:1; 14:2ff; 16:11,41; Deut. 1:27; Psalm 106:25)
- ✦ God destroyed them – *the rebellion of Korah* - Num 16:21-35,45-48

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

DANGER OF COMPLAINING — 10:10



**1 Corinthians 10:10
(NKJV)**
**¹⁰ nor complain, as
some of them also
complained, and were
destroyed by the
destroyer.**

- ✦ The Corinthians could be guilty of the sin of murmuring due to the instructions given them Regarding:
- ✦ Division (1-3), church discipline (5), immorality, lawsuits (6) MDR (7) association with idolatrous practices forbidden (8,9)

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

DANGER OF COMPLAINING — 10:10

'People murmur when they think that justice has not been given to their claim, when they believe that they have been deprived of their legitimate rights....Complaining to God because of His restrictions over our conduct implies that we know better what we need than He does; it charges God with placing unnecessary restrictions on our freedom...' (Willis p. 327)




**1 Corinthians 10:10
(NKJV)**

**¹⁰ nor complain, as
some of them also
complained, and were
destroyed by the
destroyer.**

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:11
(NKJV)

“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.

- 
- The examples recorded in the Old Testament are there for a reason -
 - Past lessons effect the wise different than the fool -

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (NKJV)

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*.



LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)



- ◆ The danger of falling is just as real for us as it was for the Israelites and Corinthians . . .
- ◆ To think that we cannot fall is foolish . . .
- ◆ Temptation will come!
- ◆ God is faithful –
- ◆ The devil is limited –
- ◆ God will provide a way of escape
- ◆ We can do it!!!

LESSONS FROM HISTORY - (10:1-13)

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