

Warnings From Israel’s History—1 Corinthians 10:1–13

Topics: Complaining, Example, Faithfulness, History, Idolatry, Ignorance, Immorality, Temptation, Testing

Open It

1. What lessons can we learn from history?
2. What is one event in your own extended family history that has influenced your life?

1 Corinthians 10:1–13 (ESV)

1For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,

2and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3and all ate the same spiritual food,

4and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

5Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.

7Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”

8We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

9We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents,

10nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.

11Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

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

13No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Explore It

3. How do the Israelites serve as examples to us? (10:1–6)
4. How did God feel about the Israelites in the wilderness? (10:5)
5. What evil actions cost many of the Israelites their lives? (10:7–10)
6. Why should we care what happened to the ancient Israelites? (10:11)
7. What warning did Paul give the Corinthians? Why? (10:12)
8. Why is it important that all the temptations Christians face are common to everyone? (10:13)
9. How does God help us when we are tempted? (10:13)

Get It

10. What warning should we recall when tempted to participate in idolatry, sexual immorality, testing the Lord, or grumbling?
11. What difference should it make in your daily life that God will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear?

Apply It

12. What promise or warning do you want to remember to help you stand up under temptation this week?