

# **I Corinthians**

## **(20) Warning: Don't Abuse Grace!**

*1 Cor 9:26*

*Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. 27 No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.*

*10:1 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. 2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same spiritual food 4 and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.*

*6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry." 8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did – and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. 9 We should not test the Lord, as some of them did – and were killed by snakes. 10 And do not grumble, as some of them did – and were killed by the destroying angel.*

*11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. 14 Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry. NIV*

### **Examples written specifically as warnings for us...10:1-13**

What was Paul's powerfully *motivating fear*? 9:26-27

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Why should that be so significant to the Corinthians, *and to us*? 10:12; 8:1-2

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What is the basic truth Paul emphasizes in 9:26-10:5? Rom.9:6-8; Jude 5

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What does Paul say is *why* these things happened to Israel? 10:6, 11; II Pet.2:4-10a

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What are (4) specific instances? 10:6-10; **1) Ex.32:1-28 2) Nu.25:1-9 3) Nu.21:1-9 4) Nu.16**

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What is *one specific warning* we learn from these examples? Rom.6:1-15; Gal.5:13

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And what was a prime example of that at Corinth? 11:23-32

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What specific warning does he now *repeat*? 10:11

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And to whom is this warning particularly relevant? 10:12; 8:2; 4:1-5

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And what about the temptations that 'seize' us? 10:13; Rom.8:28-31; Lu.22:32; II Pet.2:9

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### **Examples written specifically as warnings for us...10:1-13**

What was Paul's powerfully motivating fear? 9:26-27

**He feared that after years of preaching to others, he himself would be disqualified!**

Why should that be so significant to the Corinthians, *and to us?* 10:12; 8:1-2

**If the great Apostle Paul was concerned, how much more for us? Self confidence is subtle!**

What is the basic truth Paul emphasizes in 9:26-10:5? Rom.9:6-8; Jude 5

**Not all Israel, experiencing God's blessings, pleased Him. In fact most died in the desert!**

What does Paul say is *why* these things happened to Israel? 10:6, 11; II Pet.2:4-10a

**They occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.**

What are (4) specific instances? 10:6-10; 1) Ex.32:1-28 2) Nu.25:1-9 3) Nu.21:1-9 4) Nu.16

**1) Idolaters 2) Sexual immorality 3) Testing the Lord 4) Grumbling (against leaders)**

What is *one specific warning* we learn from these examples? Rom.6:1-15; Gal.5:13

**Never, never, never presume on God's grace! He is gracious, but that grace has limits!**

And what was a prime example of that at Corinth? 11:23-32

**Some who were weak, sick, and a number who died. Communion in an unworthy manner.**

What specific warning does he now *repeat*? 10:11

**These are specific warnings to us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. Today...**

And to whom is this warning particularly relevant? 10:12; 8:2; 4:1-5

**To anyone who thinks they're Ok! Standing firm! "No way I'd fall the way they did..."**

And what about the temptations that 'seize' us? 10:13; Rom.8:28-31; Lu.22:32; II Pet.2:9

**They're all 'common'. God is faithful. No unbearable test, He always provides a way out!**