

1  **“Truth to Transform a Worldly Church”**

Studies in I Corinthians

“Doomed to Repeat History”

- I Corinthians 10:1-15 -

2 

- In **chapters 8 and 9**, Paul is demonstrating how our use of the liberty we have in Christ affects others.
- **Now**, as we come to **chapter 10**, we are about to see how our use of our liberty in Christ can affect us!
- **Our misuse of Christian liberty can disqualify us from productive and fruitful service in the kingdom of God [the church]**

3 

The last verse of the preceding chapter [I Cor. 9:27] alludes to this idea of being “disqualified.”

- ***“... 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.”***
- **Paul is here referring to service and not salvation** [i.e. that the work of ministry he had dedicated his life to might go up in smoke at the judgment seat of Christ - cf. I Cor. 3:11-15]

4 

- In chapter 10 - he is **warning his readers of the danger of wasting the opportunity to accomplish things with an eternal significance in their lives**
- In chapter 10, Paul used **some very sobering illustrations of wasted opportunities from the history of Old Testament Israel**
- I Cor. 10:11: ***“These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.”***

5 

- ***“If we do not learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it’s mistakes!”***

6 

Using Israel’s experiences, Paul discusses:

- 1)The Position of Liberty [vv. 1-4]
- 2)The Perversion of Liberty [vv. 5-10]
- 3)The Preservation of Liberty [vv. 11-13]

7 

I. The Position of Liberty [vv. 1-4]

. ***“For, ...”***

- ***“I do not want you to be ignorant”***
- ***“our forefathers”***

8 

- **“All Hebrews were the physical descendants of Abraham. But to truly be God’s children they also had to be his spiritual descendants. ‘For they are not all Israel who are descended from Israel ... that is, it is not the children of flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants’ (Rom. 9:6. 8). Abraham was father of all the faithful**

(Rom. 4:11; Gal. 3:29), and in this sense Paul's reference to our fathers could be addressed to Gentile as well as Jewish Christians, for they were spiritual descendants of all who believe."
John MacArthur