

This morning, (10:1-12): We looked at the Apostle Paul's warning and admonition to the Church @ Corinth:

That they might learn from the bad examples of MANY of the children of Israel in their journeyings through the wilderness AFTER their Exodus from Egypt as Paul wrote:

(V6): "To the INTENT (or with the design and purpose) THAT WE should NOT lust after evil things AS THEY ALSO lusted.

And, that you should not be idolators, fornicators, murmurers or complainers, and that you WOULD NOT be provokers of God by despising His goodness by your rebellion and unbelief!

When the people were filled with evil lusts, God slew their chosen and valiant men; when Aaron carved out the golden calf: 3,000 died; when there was fornication in the camp 23,000 were killed; when they provoked and tempted God "MANY people in Israel died"; when they murmured against God, God slew 14,700 of them, this, beside those that were slain in Korah's rebellion against God, and against Moses the servant of the LORD.

Do you see all of these OT EXAMPLES in the children of Israel (the people of God) falling into sin? (V12): "WHEREFORE"

My INTENT in teaching you about Israel's history in their Exodus from Egypt is so that you might be warned about the constant dangers there are in this present world of FALLING into sin like they did!

"WHEREFORE let him that STANDETH take heed lest he fall"

Listen, you may see someone fall into a terrible sin, and think to yourself, that'll never happen to me! BUT that's a terribly dangerous way to think beloved of God! To think THAT WAY is to THINK that you ARE STANDING (as a Christian) in your own strength! Beloved, when we think like that, we are headed for a fall. As we said this morning: Proverbs 16:18

Romans 5:1-2, 1 Corinthians 15:1, Ephesians 6:10-18

BE STRONG here is a PRESENT, IMPERATIVE COMMAND, meaning we are to CONSTANTLY be relying on "this strength" if we would resist the temptations and fiery darts of the devil.

Not only is this a present, imperative command, but "BE STRONG" is spoken in the PASSIVE VOICE meaning that this strength does not come from within you, but from an outside source, IT IS A STRENGTH that we do not possess in and of ourselves. BUT we trust God BY FAITH, to supply us with His strength to STAND AGAINST and RESIST Satan.

Remember these are spiritual battles, therefore, we need supernatural strength! 2 Corinthians 10:3-6, Galatians 2:20

Don't RELY ON or STAND in your own confidence or strength in your Christian life or you will SURELY fall, whether it is to your own heart's lusts or by falling prey to the devil's wiles/methods.

You endeavor or try to STAND in your Christian life, in your own strength and by your own methods and you will fail.

(V13): "There hath no temptation (adversity or trial) taken (or seized) you, but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it"

Christian, God will NOT allow a temptation to OVERWHELM you MORE than you are able to bear. But God will allow temptations to come to you to PROVE and TEST your faith in Christ.

WHY? So that HE MIGHT DISCOVER and uncover your faith in Christ; to find your weaknesses and to strengthen you in the faith of Christ.

2 Peter 3:18, Romans 5:3-5, James 1:12-15, Hebrews 4:14-16

Paul spoke this to comfort them, so that they WOULD NOT be overwhelmed, after hearing of "so many and numerous" OT examples of the children of Israel falling into sins with accompanying and fearful judgments.

This was an exhortation so that they might not be discouraged in their Christian walk!

God WILL with the temptation, make a way of escape that you will be able to bear it.

God WILL never allow you to be engulfed and overcome by a temptation!