

I Corinthians 10:13
NOT TEMPTED ABOVE YE ARE ABLE

- I. Sore trials.
 - A. "Temptation" is a proving, a trial of our integrity, virtue, and faithfulness by means of our being enticed to sin.
 - B. The trials/temptations had "taken" (lay hold on) the new Christians.
 - 1. The temptations were overpowering and had been laid on them for a lengthy time, so it was increasingly difficult to bear.
 - 2. They found themselves staring at the hardships, so they were overwhelmed.
- II. God assures.
 - A. The first assurance is that "such is common to man."
 - 1. This is a very good answer to the lie of our flesh and of the devil: we are unique and not understood in our suffering.
 - 2. "Common to man" is God's first answer, calling the lie a lie (the negative is emphatic).
 - B. The second assurance is "God is faithful" (II Tim. 2:13).
 - 1. God is true to every promise He makes, especially to be a very present help in trouble!
 - 2. In every trial, put this short, sweet sentence in your mouth.
 - C. The third assurance is that God controls all, for He "will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able."
 - 1. "With the temptation also" implies that He sovereignly gives the temptation/trial.
 - 2. The sovereign God knows exactly how much we can bear (different from how much we want).
- III. God's promise is His provision to "make a way of escape."
 - A. First, note that the Greek identifies it as THE way of escape.
 - B. God's provision is that He strengthens us "to bear it."
 - C. Do not despair when facing any and every trial/temptation.