1 – **Take Heed That You Do Not Fall – Part 2**
1 Corinthians 10:1-12

2 – **Context**

1 Corinthians 10:1 begins with the word ***“For”,*** connecting it with the context of the previous chapter(s).

* **Chapter 8** deals with **exercising our liberties** - what we may or may not do and not **causing our brethren to stumble**. (note vs. 8-13)
* **Chapter 9** deals with Paul’s right to be **supported by them to preach** the gospel but his **decision to forego**. (vs. 1-18)
* Continuing in **Chapter 9**, Paul discusses the need to make **all decisions in light of our ability to teach others the gospel and save souls**. (vs. 19-23).
* Finally, Paul **ends Chapter 9** discussing the need to **run the Christian race with every ounce of effort and self-discipline so that he is not “*disqualified*”**. (vs. 24-27)

3 - **“I do not want you to be unaware…”**

**Ignorance** is deadly… who composed the church in Corinth? (1 Corinthians 12:1)

**ALL** **were delivered** from captivity by God and provided for.

* **We need confidence** (1 John 2:28-29) but need to beware of **overconfidence**.
* **We can fall away**… (Hebrews 3:12; 4:11)
* **We can come short** of our goal… (Hebrews 4:1ff)
* **Will we trust in our (past) righteousness**? (Ezekiel 33:12-13)

Paul finishes this context by saying, ***“take heed that he does not fall”*** and God will ***“provide a way of escape”.*** (vs. 12-13)

4 - **The Best teacher…**

We need to learn from the mistakes and shortcomings of others.

* **What led to them.**
* **What they cost them.**
* **How to avoid them.**

The call to avoid the sins Israel committed after (all) being delivered by God.

* “***Now these things happened as examples for us***…”
(1 Corinthians 10:6, 10) & were “***written for our instruction***”.

5 - **The Best teacher…**

“**All**…” (1 Corinthians 10:1-4)

1. “**Under the cloud**…” (Exodus 13:21-22; 14:20; Numbers 10:34; 14:14)
2. “**Passed through the sea**…” (Exodus 14:21-22)
3. “**Were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea**…”
4. “**Ate the same spiritual food**…” (Exodus 16:15; Nehemiah 9:15)
5. “**Ate the same spiritual drink**…” (Exodus 17:6)

6 – **God Was Not Well-Pleased**

“*Nevertheless, with* ***MOST*** *of them G****od was not well-pleased****; for the were* ***laid low*** *in the wilderness*.” (vs. 5)

* The contrast of the “***all***” & the “***most***” or the **greater part**.
* “***Not well pleased***” - that is, not approved, i.e., rejected.
* “***Laid low***” - not just humbled (though they were) but “strewn down”.

**“*These things happened as examples for us*…”** (vs. 6, 11). We’re to learn from their mistakes.

7 - **Do Not Be…**

1. **Those who crave evil things… (vs. 6)**
* **Crave** - A ardent longing or desire, for good or bad. Determined by who’s will creates the longing.
* As the Israelites craved for meat as they looked back to their captivity. (Numbers 11:4ff; 25:1ff; 31:16; Rev. 2:14)
* Application to Corinth? Consider their environment…
* Application to us?
* **How do we avoid**? (Romans 12:21; Philippians 4:8)

8 - **Do Not Be…**

1. **Idolators…**
* **“There is a throne in every man’s heart…” (J.T. Smith)**
* **God alone belongs that throne but we can displace Him with anything or anyone else.**
* **Anything else that comes first. (Matthew 6:33)**
* **To be fled from. (10:14)**

9 **- Idolatry**

**“Modern idolatry”** (2 Timothy 3:1-4; Romans 1:25)

* **Self** (vs. 2; Romans 2:8; Phil. 2:3-4; Matthew 10:39; 16:24-25; Titus 2:12-13)
* **Money/Greed** (vs. 2; Colossians 3:5; 1 Timothy 6:10; Matthew 6:19-24; Proverbs 30:15; Luke 12:13ff; Ezek. 33:30-33)
* **The “things” money buys** (1 John 2:15; cf., Haggai 1:2-4)
* **Pleasure/entertainment** (vs. 4; James 4:17)

10 **– Idolatry**

**How to overcome?**

* **Make a choice**. (Joshua 24:15) and make **Him our true priority**. (Matthew 6:33)
* **Be transformed**. (Romans 12:1-2)
* **Overcome evil with good**. (Romans 12:21)

11 - **Do Not Be…**

1. **Immoral (fornicators)…**
* **Example of Balaam & the Israelites** (Rev. 2:14; Numbers 25:1-3)
* **Driven by the lusts of the flesh**. (1 John 2:17)
* **Walk no longer**… (1 Peter 4:1-3)
* **Led by the Spirit** (Romans 8:5-14)
* **Warning to those who “stand”.** (1 Thess. 4:1-7)
* **What to watch?** (Proverbs 4:23)

12 - **Do Not Be…**

1. **Testers…** (vs. 9; Numbers 21:5ff)
* **“The people became impatient because of the journey.”** (Numbers 21:4)
* **Make God prove Himself to us**. (Matthew 4:4-7; Psalms 91)
* **Walk by sight and not by faith** in the evidence. (Numbers 21:1-5; Exodus 17:1-7; cf., to **Gideon** in Joshua 6; Mark 9:24; Luke 17:5)
* **Stems from carnal focus and dissatisfaction**.
* **Growing our trust in God**. (Romans 8:28; Malachi 3:10)

13 - **Do Not Be…**

1. **Complainers…** (vs. 10, Numbers 14:2, 27; 16:41; 11:1ff)
* **What the Pharisees did**! (Luke 5:30; John 6:41-43, 61)
* **About our temporal circumstances.** (Philippians 4:11)
* **About God’s rule** and authority, about **how difficult** it is and **how unfair** it is. (Job 33:13)
* **About worship and service unto God.** (1 John 5:3)
* About **anything God asks us to do**! (Phil. 2:14; 1 Peter 4:9)

14 – **Therefore**…

***“Let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall… “*** (vs. 12; Hebrews 3:12; 4:11)

* We’re to ***“stand firm”*** (1 Peter 5:12; Phil. 4:1) **in the gospel**. (1 Corinthians 15:1; Romans 5:2)
* Speaks to **our spiritual battle**. (Ephesians 6:10-14)
* **It takes work (and prayer).** (Colossians 4:12)

15 - **Therefore**…

**Don’t think what we face is unique, but rather is “*common to man*”.** (vs. 13)

* **Not to be casual about temptation and sin.** (James 1:15-16)
* **It can happen to any of us at any time!**
* **The need to be sober and vigilant.** (1 Thess. 5:8; 1 Peter 1:13
* **Jesus was tempted in all ways as we are, yet w/o sin**. (Hebrews 4:14-16; 2:14-18)

16 - **Therefore**…

***“Flee idolatry”,* (10:14)**

***“****Not all things are* ***profitable…*** *not all things* ***edify.”* (10:23)**

***“****Not seeking* ***my own profit,*** *but**the* ***profit of the many, that they may be saved.”* (10:33)**