



# 1 CORINTHIANS

SINNERS *made* SAINTS

1 Corinthians 10: 1 (ESV)

---

*For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,*

Question?

What is Paul  
wanting these  
early Christians to  
be aware of?



The Jewish people can't deny the fact that God was working in their lives.

Also, just as God was with the Jewish nation, no Christian should deny that God is working in their lives.

# 1 Corinthians 10: 2 (ESV)

---

*and all were baptized into  
Moses in the cloud and in the  
sea,*

Question?



This is an unusual statement,  
so what is Paul saying?

Just as we have been baptized into Christ and our lives are identified with Him, the lives of the Israelites in the Old Testament identified with Moses in a similar manner.

Throughout scripture we see examples pointing to Christ.


1 Corinthians 10: 3-4 (ESV)

---

*and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.*



If the Israelites would only  
open their eyes they would  
see Jesus throughout the  
Old Testament!



Just as God provided for the  
Israelites in the Old Testament,  
He provides spiritual food and  
drink to us today through  
Christ!

Please turn to:  
Philippians 1: 5-6

---



## Philippians 1: 5-6 (ESV)

---

*because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*

1 Corinthians 10: 5 (ESV)

---

*Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.*

Question?



Why was God not pleased with  
most of the Israelites?

Please turn to:  
Hebrews 3: 16-19

---



## Hebrews 3: 16-19 (NLT)

---

*And who was it who rebelled against God, even though they heard his voice? Wasn't it the people Moses led out of Egypt?*



## Hebrews 3: 16-19 (NLT)

---

*And who made God angry for forty years? Wasn't it the people who sinned, whose corpses lay in the wilderness?*

## Hebrews 3: 16-19 (NLT)

---

*And to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they would never enter his rest? Wasn't it the people who disobeyed him?*

Question?

Why did they  
disobey God?



# Hebrews 3: 16-19 (NLT)

---

*So we see that because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his rest.*

Just like the Israelites, a Christian can see God working in their lives and see the blessings of God, however unbelief can creep in when they refuse to trust God with everything, and this unbelief can lead to sin.

The stronger your  
faith, the less you will  
question God!

# 1 Corinthians 10: 6 (ESV)

---

*Now these things took place as  
examples for us, that we might  
not desire evil as they did.*

# 1 Corinthians 10: 6 (ESV)

---

*Now these things took place as  
examples for us, that we might  
not desire evil as they did.*



Question?



Why did the Israelites desire  
evil?

Please turn to:  
Hebrews 3: 12

---



Hebrews 3: 12 (ESV)

---

*Take care, brothers, lest there  
be in any of you an evil,  
unbelieving heart, leading you  
to fall away from the living  
God.*

1 Corinthians 10: 7 (ESV)

---

*Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play."*

Question?



What is Paul telling us about  
the Israelites here?

1 Corinthians 10: 7 (ESV)

---

*Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play."*

Paul is warning of the danger of becoming busy with life and losing interest or becoming complacent as we continue in our Christian walk.

We must persevere!

Please turn to:  
Galatians 6: 9

---





Galatians 6: 9 (ESV)

---

*And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.*

# 1 Corinthians 10: 8 (ESV)

---

*We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.*

This is referencing Numbers 25 when God unleashed a plague on the Israelites because the Moabitish women enticed them into committing sexual immorality which then lead to idolatry.

# 1 Corinthians 10: 9 (ESV)

---

*We must not put Christ to the  
test, as some of them did  
and were destroyed by  
serpents,*

This is thought to be a reference to Numbers 21 where many of the Israelites perished by fiery serpents in the wilderness because of complaining and doubt.

Please turn to:  
Hebrews 3: 12



## Numbers 21: 5-6 (NLT)

---

*and they began to speak against God and Moses. “Why have you brought us out of Egypt to die here in the wilderness?” they complained.*

## Numbers 21: 5-6 (NLT)

---

*“There is nothing to eat here and nothing to drink. And we hate this horrible manna!”*



## Numbers 21: 5-6 (NLT)

---

*So the Lord sent poisonous snakes among the people, and many were bitten and died.*

1 Corinthians 10: 9 (ESV)

---

**We must not put Christ to the  
test, as some of them did  
and were destroyed by  
serpents,**

Question?

How do we put  
Christ to the test?



# 1 Corinthians 10: 10 (ESV)

---

*nor grumble, as some of them  
did and were destroyed by the  
Destroyer.*

Question?

What is grumbling  
a symptom of?



Question?

Who is the  
destroyer?



Question?

---

What does this  
tell us about  
who is behind  
grumbling?



# 1 Corinthians 10: 11 (ESV)

---

*Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.*



Question?

Who is the  
example for?



1 Corinthians 10: 12 (ESV)

---

*Therefore let anyone who  
thinks that he stands take heed  
lest he fall.*

1 Corinthians 10: 13 (ESV)

---

*No temptation has overtaken  
you that is not common to  
man.*

Question?

What is a  
temptation?



1 Corinthians 10: 13 (ESV)

---

*God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*

Question?

---

How do you  
escape  
temptation?



Please turn to:  
Matthew 4: 1-4

---



# Matthew 4: 1-11 (ESV)

---

*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.*




Matthew 4: 1-11 (ESV)

---

*And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”*


Question?

Was it a  
coincidence that  
the tempter came  
at this exact time? !



Question?

Why do you think  
satan waited until  
this moment to  
tempt Christ?




Matthew 4: 1-4 (ESV)

---

*But he answered, "It is written,  
"Man shall not live by bread  
alone,  
but by every word that comes  
from the mouth of God."*

Question?

What weapon is  
Christ using  
against satan?



## Matthew 4: 1-4 (ESV)

---

*Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,*

*“He will command his angels concerning you,” And “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.””*

Question?

Does satan know  
scripture?



Matthew 4: 1-4 (ESV)

---

*Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.*



## Matthew 4: 1-11 (ESV)

---

*And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ““You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.””*


# Matthew 4: 1-11 (ESV)

---

*Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.*

Question?

We know we can  
fight temptation  
with the sword of  
the Word, how else  
can we fight  
temptation?



# 1 Corinthians 10: 14 (ESV)

---

*Therefore, my beloved, flee  
from idolatry.*

Question?

---

How can we  
flee from  
temptation?



# 1 Corinthians 10: 15 (ESV)

---

*I speak as to sensible people;  
judge for yourselves what I say.*

Question?

How would a  
sensible person  
react to Paul's  
teaching?



# 1 Corinthians 10: 15 (NLT)

---

*You are reasonable people.  
Decide for yourselves if what I  
am saying is true.*



# 1 Corinthians 10: 16 (ESV)

---

*The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?*



Question?

This verse can lead  
to misinterpretation,  
so what is Paul  
saying?

1 Corinthians 10: 16 (KJV)

---

*The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?*

# Communion

---


*Greek: koinonia*

*to be in league or fellowship,  
unity, partnership*


1 Corinthians 10: 17 (ESV)

---

*Because there is one bread, we  
who are many are one body,  
for we all partake of the one  
bread.*



Partaking of Communion  
together is also a  
demonstration of our unity  
in Christ!



Question?

How important is  
unity in the  
Church to God?



Please turn to:  
John 17: 20-23

---





John 17: 20-23 (ESV)

---

*“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one,*

John 17: 20-23 (ESV)

---

*just as you, Father, are in me,  
and I in you, that they also may  
be in us, so that the world may  
believe that you have sent me.*

Question?

How does unity<sup>+</sup>  
demonstrate  
Jesus to the  
world?

John 17: 20-23 (ESV)

---

*The glory that you have given  
me I have given to them, that  
they may be one even as we  
are one,*

John 17: 20-23 (ESV)

---

*I in them and you in me, that  
they may become perfectly  
one, so that the world may  
know that you sent me  
and loved them even as you  
loved me.*

# 1 Corinthians 10: 18-19 (ESV)

---

*Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?*

# 1 Corinthians 10: 20 (ESV)

---

*No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons.*

# 1 Corinthians 10: 21-22 (ESV)

---

*You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?*



I believe that Paul is telling us that we cannot participate in the sins and idolatry of the world, act and speak like the world, and be no different from the world

and then show up among  
God's people, take communion  
and mingle among His children  
who are worshiping Him  
without provoking God to  
jealousy.