



**Look and Live**  
A Series on the Cross  
June 10, 2012

**7**

**PART III: THE N. T. APPLICATION OF THE TYPE (PAUL IN 1 Cor. 10)**

**A Warning from the Past**

**1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

**UPDATED HANDOUT**

**INTRODUCTION:**

- I. **The Privileges [Of the Children of Israel] (1 Cor. 10:1-4)**
  - A. **The Direction That Was Presented (1 Cor. 10:1; Ex. 13:21-22; Ps. 119:105, 130; 2 Pet. 1:19)**
  - B. **The Deliverance That Was Produced (cf., Ex. 14; Lam. 3:22)**
  - C. **The Declaration That Was Pictured (1 Cor. 10:2)**
  - D. **The Diet That Was Provided (1 Cor. 10:3-4a; cf., Ex. 16 & 17; Num. 20)**
  - E. **The Deity That Was Present (1 Cor. 10:4)**
- II. **The Perception (1 Cor. 10:5a; Zech. 1:2; Ps. 19:14; Heb. 11:5; 13:16)**
  - With all of the benefits that they enjoyed from God ...
  - Yet they did not please God!
- III. **The Punishment (1 Cor. 10:5b; Num. 14:28-35)**
  - There is a warning here for us.

**THE APPLICATION FOR POINTS I, II AND III.**

**Please refer to study guide 6 for this section. [www.calvaryofliberty.org](http://www.calvaryofliberty.org)**

**QUOTE:** Any decision for Christ that does not result in a disciple of Christ is not a conversion to Christ but is a delusion about Christ! (Luther Price)

**IV. The Problems (10:6B-10)**

**BRIEF REVIEW (Please refer to study guide 6)**

- I. The Privileges (5 benefits that the children of Israel enjoyed.)
- II. The Perception (These did not mean that God was pleased.)
- III. The Punishment (All but 2 of the adults who left Egypt fell in the wilderness journey.)

**QUOTE: Warning:** the warning to the church and to its believers. Scripture says explicitly, what happened to Israel is a warning, an example to us. We face danger, great danger: what happened to the believers of Israel can happen to us. If it does, then the doom that fell upon the believers of Israel will fall upon us. It is critical, therefore, to know what caused the believers of Israel to be destroyed and what kept them from entering the promised land. **P.O.S.B.**

## A. The Problem of Their Desires (10:6)

### 1. DEFINITIONS

**“Examples”** – Greek, *tupos*, types.

**“Lust”** – *epithumeo*. In classical literature *epithumēō* means “desire for, long for”; it is neither a negative nor positive impulse.

#### **CBLGED**

- 1) **The basic meaning is simply to desire. (Luke 16:1)**
- 2) **The desire may be for that which is good. (1 Tim. 3:1)**
- 3) **When the object desired is forbidden, it is sin. (Rom. 13:9)**

- And here Paul pairs it with the following word.

**“Evil Things”** – *kakos*. See following.

- 1) **This can refer to moral wrongdoing. (Lk. 23:22)**
- 2) **This can refer to worthless things. (Lk. 16:25)**
- 3) **This can refer to harmful things. (Acts 16:28; 28:5)**

**SUMMARY:** *Kakos* refers to those things which are immoral, which are of no value or which are harmful. It is when we desire these things that we have crossed the line that the children of Israel crossed, that the church in Corinth was crossing. And if we do, we are subject to the same fate.

### 2. INTERPRETATION (Num. 11:4-6; 11:34)

**NOTE:** While the word *epithumeo* can mean a sexual lust, that is not the primary meaning in this context. If so, Paul would not have included verse 8. We may apply this to any evil lust, but the interpretation here was the lust for the familiar, the comfortable, the known, the foods of Egypt.

### 3. APPLICATION - LUST IS ...

- a. **A Distraction (Mk. 4:19; 1 Pet. 2:11)**
- b. **A Disclosure (Eph. 2:3; 1 Th. 4:4-5; 3 Jn. 1:11; 1 Jn. 2:15-16)**
  - 1) **An unconverted person**
  - 2) **One who does not love the Father**
- c. **A Defilement (2 Tim. 2:22)**
- d. **Death (Spiritual, Physical) (James 1:15)**

Hebrews 12:1-2

**NEW MATERIAL FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2012 BEGINS HERE.**

## B. The Problem of Their Devotion (10:7; Ex. 32:1-14)

### 1. DEFINITIONS (Cf., Is. 44:19; Col. 3:5; Eph. 5:5)

**IDOLATERS** – GK. *eidōlōlatrēs*. Lit., an image servant, or image worshipper. When broken down, the word comes from a noun root meaning “idol” and a verb meaning “to serve or to render religious homage.” In its purist sense, the word means to worship something in place of God. But as we will see, one may commit idolatry which does not involve any image or idol. (Cf., 1 Cor. 6:9)

**PLAY** – The word here simply means to make sport. We will look at the Hebrew word in its O.T. setting in just a few moments.

### 2. HISTORICAL SETTING

 **Reading: Exodus 32:1-6**

- Note how they say, “These be thy gods,” and how he says, “Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.”
- Though Aaron’s intentions were good, his actions anger the Lord.

**LESSON:** Carnally minded believers will always want worship to drift in the direction of human ideas and entertainment. Any time we make ministry about pleasing people instead of obeying God we are drifting from worship which is acceptable to God!

**DRINK** – This is the ordinary word for to drink. It does not specify the substance, but given that this angered God, it is probably intoxicating drink.

**PLAY** – Heb. – *tsachach*. The word means to laugh (out loud), to mock, make sport, scorn. The connection with drinking does not indicate anything good. Though not directly included in the definition of the word, there

appears to be a sexual connotation to the use of it. It is used in Geneses 26:8 in that way.

 **Reading: Exodus 32:7-14**

- Life is not working out the way that the children of Israel wanted it to.
- They were not about to change from what THEY wanted!
- So they will try to change GOD! Wow!

**NOTE:** It was Barclay who noted the motivation for idolaters is all about what they can get. If they can bribe God with church attendance and offerings, and get what they want, then God is fine. If God doesn't do it for them, then they will put anything in His place, anything that will give them money, sexual pleasure, entertainment or power! *Daily Study Bible, Colossians, 182*

- Notice the pattern:

**1) They Go Through the Ritual of Worship** (Burnt offerings same as always. It was a nice comfortable routine.)

**2) They eat and drink** (intoxicating drink), turning worship into a party.

**3) They rise up to “play.”** (Immoral play) **[NOTE:** Hebrew = to laugh, mock, make sport of. As we said, the use of the word in Genesis 26:8-9 indicate a sexual play.]

- Such immoral play is always associated with idolatry.
- They made their own God, so they will worship their own way.

- The only thing that they forgot was **what the real God would think about this!!!**
- Look with me the remainder of the chapter to see what happened next!

#### **Reading: Exodus 32:19-20**

- He scattered the residue on the water of the nearby mountain stream (cf., Dt. 9:21) and made the people drink.
- **APPLY!** – There is such a thing as justifiable, righteous anger!

#### **Reading: Exodus 32:21-24**

- Deuteronomy 9:20 reveals how angry God had been with Aaron.
- Had it not been for Moses' intercession, Aaron would have been dead.
- When Moses confronts Aaron, he first tries to blame it all on the people, then he claims that the calf was a miraculous production!

#### **Reading: Exodus 32:26-28**

- Moses sends those who had not participated in the idolatry (the Levites) to kill those who had worshipped the calf.
- Brother had to kill brother that day.
- Three thousand heads of families died because of their sin.
- Moses prays that God will spare the remainder of the people.
- God does spare them, but not without chastisement.
- He sends a plague comes upon the rest.

**APPLY!** – Perhaps we should be careful what we worship and how we worship.

**ILLUS:** When I hear the word idolatry, the image that comes to mind is one of the deepest darkest jungle...dancing...fire...angry faced stone god... You don't picture an idolater as one dress nicely, seated quietly in a church meeting. But never forget Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. And He does not see as man sees. Nothing hidden. Thoughts and intents of the heart are open. In the eyes of the Lord, probably many of us tonight look no different than a bushman with feathers in our hair and a bone through our nose. *Ronnie Brown*

### **3. INTERPRETATION (Dt. 11:16; Is. 42:8; 1 Jn. 5:21)**

#### **Two dangers for the Corinthians:**

##### **a. Contact with Idolaters**

**QUOTE:** This was the danger the Corinthian believers faced. If they participated in the social functions of unbelievers, they might fall into sin. Whether the function was held in the temple or in the homes of the unbelievers, the likelihood was they would slip into the same idolatrous behavior of the unbelievers. (See note—[1 Cor. 5:9-10](#); note—[1 Cor. 6:9](#) for more discussion.) *P.O.S.B.*

##### **1) Literal Idolatry**

**QUOTE: Religions of Corinth** Although the restored city of Paul's day was a Roman city, the inhabitants continued to worship Greek gods. West of the Lechaion road and north of the agora stood the old temple of Apollo. Probably partially destroyed by Mummius in 146 b.c., seven of the original 38

columns still stand. On the east side of the road was the shrine to Apollo. In the city were shrines also to Hermes, Hercules, Athena, and Poseidon.

Corinth had a famous temple dedicated to Asclepius [pr. As-klep-i-us], the god of healing, and his daughter Hygieia [pr. Hi-ge-ay-uh]. Several buildings were constructed around the temple for the sick who came for healing. The patients left at the temple terra cotta replicas of the parts of their bodies that had been healed. Some of these replicas have been found in the ruins.

The most significant pagan cult in Corinth was the cult of Aphrodite. The worship of Aphrodite had flourished in old Corinth before its destruction in 146 b.c. and was revived in Roman Corinth. A temple for the worship of Aphrodite was located on the top of the Acropolis. *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*

## 2) Figurative Uses

- There was a sexual connotation to the sin of Exodus 32. (See above)
- The city of Corinth was known for its promiscuity.
- But for now, what does the New Testament say about idolatry that does not involve a literal idol?

### **THREE FORMS OF SPIRITUAL IDOLATRY AS SEEN IN THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST** *Dict. of Bible Themes*

- a) **Possessions (Mt. 4:3-4; 6:24; Lk. 16:13; 18:23; Phillip. 3:19; Col. 3:5)**

- Here, Jesus needed food, and Satan made it a temptation.
- For us, we must be careful when we lust after things.

**b) Prestige and Self-Esteem (Mt. 4:6; Lk. 3:8; 10:29; 18:11-12; 18:21; Rom. 2:19; Philip. 2:5-9)**

- Satan tells Jesus, you are really somebody! Why don't you show it off?
- We can quite easily make ourselves into our own little god!
- But the only man who was God looked at it differently!

**c) Power (Mt. 4:8-9; James 4:6, 10)**

**APPLY!** – We must not boast that we have no pagan images in our home. We create our own. Idolatry destroyed the children of Israel. Paul warned the church at Corinth, and I pass that to the church at Liberty.

**TRANSITION: The 1<sup>st</sup> danger was contact with idolatry. There was another danger.**

**b. Frivolity in Worship (Ex. 32:6; 1 Cor. 11:29)**

**NOTE:** Remember that one of the condemnations was that the children of Israel “rose up to play” (Ex. 32:6) They turned worship into a party atmosphere. Many churches face that temptation today. Worship is not about fun! Never has been, never will be. Joy, yes, fun, no! The Corinthian church had to be rebuked in the next chapter (11:29) for partaking of the Lord’s Supper in an irreverent fashion. */kw*

#### 4. APPLICATION: (1 Cor. 5:9-13)

**QUOTE:** Idolatry is worshipping anything that ought to be used, or using anything that ought to be worshiped.

*Augustine*

- And we have many idols.
- The Corinthians faced this.
- Paul had warned them to have no close fellowship with fornicators, covetous, idolaters, etc.
- The Corinthians had gone overboard, and Paul had to give a needed correction.
- To put it simply, Paul had to restore the balance between **relevance** and **righteousness**.
- If we overemphasize relevance, we ignore the Bible command to “be holy.”
- If we overemphasize righteousness, we ignore the Bible command to “be witnesses.”
- What is the balance? (See 1 Cor. 5:9-13)

**QUOTE:** Now, note the point. The church and its believers cannot go out of the world; therefore, some contact with the unbelievers of the world is necessary. This is understandable to any thinking and honest person. However, it is also understandable that the church must not become *mixed up* with the shameful sinners of the world. The church and its believers must be separate in their behavior and fellowship. The church and the believers are to be holy and pure and righteous before God and to hold up the banner of holiness and purity and righteousness before the people of the world. Believers are *in the world*, but they must not be *of the world*. *P.O.S.B.*

**ILLUS:** Aspirin.

- We were taught that if anything had the potential for sin, it was sin.
- Caution is good, becoming a Pharisee is not!

**ILLUS:** Boat and Water

- We react quickly against the legalist.
- But there is a ditch on both sides of the road.
- We can run from legalism so hard that we end up in the ditch on the opposite side.
- That is the ditch of license!
- (Cf. 1 Tim. 4:1-5; Mk. 4:19; 1 Pet. 2:11; Eph. 5:5)

**NOTE:** The ditch on the right of the straight and narrow path is the danger of man-made rules that enslave us to non-biblical standards. Yet the left ditch is dangerous to us as well. We can become so “free” from the law of the legalist that we fall into another ditch. Here await us the dangers of allowing things to choke out the Word (Mk. 4:19), allowing things to war against the soul (1 Pet. 2:11) and allowing things to become idols in our life (Eph. 5:5; Col. 3:5). lkw