

AVOIDING THE FALL

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-7

Introduction:

1. We can learn by our own mistakes. We can also learn from the mistakes of others; and so we should.
2. The OT is given for our learning and example –Ro 15:4, 1Co 10:6, 11

Proposition: We must take heed lest we fall.

Interrogative: How do we avoid the fall?

Transition: We avoid the fall today by knowing...

I. THE EXAMPLE OF ISRAEL -10:1-7

- A. FIRST THEY STOOD –vs. 1-4
 1. They were baptized into Moses and the sea
 - a. This references the safe passage through the Red sea –Ex 14
 - b. This foreshadows Christian baptism today
 2. They ate the same spiritual food
 - a. This references the manna –Ex 16
 - b. This foreshadows the Bread from heaven (Jesus) –Jn 6:35, 48
 3. They all drank of the spiritual Rock –Ex 17
 - a. The Rock was Christ then.
 - b. The Rock is still Christ today –E.g. The woman at the well –Jn 4:14
- B. THEN THEY FELL –vs. 5-7
 1. God was displeased with His people for their lack of faith.
 2. Their bodies were scattered throughout the wilderness as a result.

II. THE STUMBLING BLOCKS OF THE DEVIL -10:8-11

- A. LUSTING AFTER EVIL THINGS
 1. They longed for the meat they had back in Egypt –Nu 11:4-6
 2. We today must not long for the old sinful life that has been left behind.
- B. IDOLATRY
 1. Israel had corrupted them with the golden calf –Ex 32
 2. An idol is anything put in place of God.
- C. IMMORALITY
 1. Israel had committed harlotry with the women of Moab –Nu 25:1-ff
 2. We must keep ourselves pure and unspotted from the world –Ja 1:27
- D. TEMPTED CHRIST
 1. They tested God by saying, “Is the Lord among us or not” –Ex 17:7
 2. We make our request to God in faith –Ja 1:5-8, Mt 6:8, He 11:6
- E. COMPLAINING
 1. They complained after receiving the bad report from the ten spies –Nu 14:1-4
 2. We must not lose our faith and trust in our Lord. God keeps His word –He 6:18, Ti 1:2

III. THE FAITHFULNESS OF THE LORD -10:12-13

A. THE FAITHFUL WARNING

1. We are to be confident of our spiritual standing.
2. We take heed by not toying with sin –E.g. Samson getting lying to Delilah.
3. We take heed by constantly feeding on the word of God -1Pe 2:2, He 5:12-14, Ac 17:11
4. We take heed by going to God in prayer -1Pe 5:7

B. THE FAITHFUL PROMISE

1. God always provides a way of escape that we may bear the temptation.
2. E.g. Joseph with Potiphar's wife –Ge 39:11-13
3. Today we are to hold to what is good and abstain from evil -1Th 5:21-22

Conclusion:

1. Satan has strong power of influence. He is however, limited. He cannot make anyone sin.
2. We avoid falling from the grace of God by heeding the examples given and staying close to God through His word, through prayer, and through fellowship with one another.