

Sunday, May 21, 2017—I Corinthians 10:13: There Hath No Temptation Taken You

Introduction

- Last week we began looking at verses 12 and 13. If you recall we didn't get a chance to study verse 13 before we ran out of time.
- Please recall the following point from last Sunday:
 - Verse 12 is the beginning of a short paragraph that includes verses 12 and 13.
 - *Wherefore*—"for which reason" (*Webster's 1828*). In other words, on the basis of Israel's example/ensample from time past in verses 1-11 Paul warns the Corinthians to "take heed."
 - If Israel who experienced both the divine provision and provision (v. 1-5) as well divine punishment (v. 7-10) couldn't get her act together and walk uprightly according to the truth of God's word how much more difficult will it be for the Corinthians.
 - Direct divine intervention cannot and does not permanently change the human heart. It might affect someone for a while but it does not bring about premiant spiritual victory or lasting joy.
 - Lastly joy and spiritual victory are internally produced not externally manufactured. Christ has given the believer a new heart. On the basis of the finished work of Christ and his shed blood as the only total complete payment for our sins the believer has under gone a heart transplant. Our core problem has been rectified and changed by the blood of Christ
 - I Corinthians 10:12—if we have learned anything from Israel's example it's that the external motivators of provision, protection, and punishment do not stop sin. Only operating by faith in God's word out of a new heart is capable of bringing about spiritual victory.
- This morning I want to spend the bulk of our time together looking at verse 13.

I Corinthians 10:13

- **There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.**
- *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man*—the English word temptation carries the following meanings:

- The act of tempting; enticement to evil by arguments, by flattery, or by the offer of some real or apparent good.
- Solicitation of the passions; enticements to evil proceeding from the prospect of pleasure or advantage.
- The state of being tempted or enticed to evil. When by human weakness you are led into temptation resort to prayer for relief.
- Trial.
- That which is presented to the mind as an inducement to evil.
- In colloquial language, an allurement to anything indifferent, or even good.
- Genesis 22:1—“God did tempt Abraham” in asking him to offer up Isaac.
- Hebrews 11:17—in speaking about Abraham offering up Isaac the writer of Hebrew says “when he was tried.” The be tempted means to be tried.
 - I Corinthians 10:13—“tempted” is same Greek work as “tried” in Heb. 11:17
- James 1:13-14—God does not tempt anyone to sin. We have a flesh that takes care of that on its own.
 - I John 2:16
- I Corinthians 10:13—Paul is saying that there is no temptation or trial that is going to come upon the Corinthians (and by extension us) that isn’t “common to man.” Contrary to popular religious opinion God doesn’t have some special unique trial designed with you in mind.
- Job 5:7, 14:1
- Romans 8:18-23—believers who experience hardship and trouble do so not because God is sending something into their life but because we are still a part of this creation has been cursed by sin.
- I Corinthians 10:13—God is not going to afflict you with a temptation/trial, however, nor is he going to insulate you from them either. God’s faithfulness is found in the next part of the verse.
- *but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able*—note the contrast “but God is faithful.” In the midst of your “common to man” trial or temptation God is always faithful.

- I Corinthians 1:9
- II Corinthians 1:18
- God is faithful in that he will not “suffer” or allow a believer to be tempted above that he or she is able. For example, this does not mean that God knows that you can only tolerate level nine pain so therefore he will never give you level 10 pain. Rather it means that God’s grace is sufficient to equip the believer to deal with any situation or circumstance.
- II Corinthians 12:9-10
- *but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it*—notice that the “way of escape” does not remove the trail or temptation altogether it just means that you will “be able to bear it.”
- *Escape*—this word occurs 59 times in 55 verses in the King James Bible in a variety of contexts. Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* along with the Oxford English Dictionary offer many definitions for the word “escape.” Some examples include the following:
 - Flight to shun danger or injury; the act of fleeing from danger.
 - A being passed without receiving injury, as when danger comes near a person, but passes by, and the person is passive. Every soldier who survives a battle has had such an *escape*.
 - Psalm 55:8
- *Bear it*—the “way of escape” does makes it possible for the believer to “bear” the weight of the trial/temptation.
 - II Timothy 3:11
 - I Peter 2:19
- Romans 8:28—God is capable of using every situation in a believer’s life for good. The issue is not with God the issue is with us. Our fleshly mindset and thought process clouds our thinking and get in the way of seeing the goodness of God in every situation and circumstance.
- Romans 8:31-34—God is for us not against us. God is not bringing special trials and temptations into your life that are not “common to man.” God is not trying to ground us to powder to teach us lessons. Rather God is trying to build up your inner and edify the believer. God is fully capable of accomplishing that exact thing.