

Sunday, May 14, 2017—I Corinthians 10:12: Take Heed Lest Ye Fall

Introduction

- Happy Mothers Day!
- Last Sunday we finished looking at I Cor. 10:11 by looking at the last phrase of the verse about “upon whom the ends of the world are come.”
- This morning I want to continue our consideration of the passage by looking at verse 12.

I Corinthians 10:12

- **Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.**
- Verse 12 is the beginning of a short paragraph that includes verses 12 and 13. Thus far there have been three paragraphs in chapter 10:
 - Verses 1-5
 - Verses 6-11
 - Verses 12-13
- *Wherefore*—“for which reason” (*Webster’s 1828*). In other words, on the basis of Israel’s example from time past in the first two paragraphs Paul warns the Corinthians to “take heed lest he fall.”
 - Proverbs 11:2; 13:10; 16:18
 - Romans 12:3
 - I Corinthians 4:6, 18-19; 5:5; 8:1—we already know that the Corinthians struggle with pride.
- 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.
 - Judges 2:7-23

- 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 undergone a heart transplant. Our core problem has been rectified and changed by the blood of Christ.
 - Romans 5:5—“. . . the love of God is shed abroad into our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”
 - II Corinthians 1:22—God has given us “the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”
 - II Corinthians 4:3-6—where there used to be blindness and darkness God has shined the light of truth into our hearts.
 - Galatians 4:6—the Spirit of God resides within your heart and is crying Abba Father right now as you listen to this message.
 - Ephesians 3:17—Christ dwells in our hearts by faith.
 - Ephesians 5:19—believers have the capacity to make melody in their hearts unto the Lord.
 - Ephesians 6:5-6
 - Colossians 3:15-16
 - I Timothy 1:5
 - II Timothy 2:22
- 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.