

I. Introduction: Paul used the nation of Israel as an object lesson to warn the Corinthians about spiritual overconfidence, and encouraged them to depend on the Lord Jesus Christ.

- A. At times, God's people can become arrogant due to His blessings and do not heed the warnings of past failures, but instead repeat the errors of their spiritual forefathers.

II. Caution: Watch Your Step! (1 Cor 10:1-13).

A. Israel's Privileges (**vv. 1-5**).

1. God disciplined the Israelites for their unbelief, even though they were more privileged and blessed by God than any other nation that had come before them.

B. Israel's Failures (**vv. 6-10**).

1. Paul warned the Corinthians not to overestimate their spiritual strength, but to learn humility from Israel's failures and to limit their liberties to avoid disaster.

C. Israel's Lessons (**vv. 11-13**).

1. Paul cautioned the Corinthians not to rely on their spiritual blessings like the Israelites had, but to rely on God's wisdom and to live by faith in His promises.

III. Conclusion: Don't be overconfident in your own ability, but run far away from temptation. Learn from the failures of Israel and live in humble reliance upon the Lord.

Questions About - Caution: Watch Your Step!

1. How confident are you in your spiritual strength? What do you consider to be a spiritual danger for you? Are you ever in peril of crossing moral lines? What is it that tempts you?
2. What privileges did God give to Israel? (**vv. 1-5**) How were they blessed with supernatural guidance? (**v. 1**) How did God supernaturally protect them from the Egyptian army? (**v. 1**)
3. What kind of leadership did Israel possess? (**v. 2**) How did God bless Israel with spiritual food? (**v. 3**) How did He provide water? (**v. 4**) Why was God NOT pleased with Israel? (**v. 5**)
4. Would you say that God is pleased with you? Can God be displeased with believers? Has your earthly father ever been displeased with you? Did that indicate that he didn't love you?
5. How did Israel fail? (**vv. 6-10**) In what way did they crave evil things? (**v. 6; Num 11:4-34**) How were they idolaters? (**v. 7; Ex 32**) How were they sexually immoral? (**v. 8; Num 25**)
6. In what way did the Jews question God's leaders? (**v. 9; Num 21:4-6**) How did they grumble against God? (**v. 10; Num 16:41-49**) In what ways are you like Israel?
7. What is the spiritual lesson Christians are supposed to learn from the Israelites? (**vv. 11-13**) How do they provide a negative example? What was God's primary warning? (**v. 12**)
8. What did Paul want the Corinthians to understand about temptation? (**v. 13**) How did Jesus overcome temptation? (**Matt 4:1-11**) What is God's promise to us about temptation?

Prayer

1. Ask God to help you sense your daily need of His wisdom and guidance in your life.
2. Ask God to deliver you from temptations in your life that are particularly difficult.