

The Corinthian Letters, Lesson 38, 1st Corinthians 10:11-13, Tempted and Tried

- ✓ Genesis 39: 11-14; 19-20, tempted and tried for sure! Joseph had a God-given dream but no idea of the process that it would take to get him there, 1st Corinthians 10:13.
-

1. Last time we looked at the spiritual drift that we are all prone to.

- ✓ Drift is inevitable because temptation is inevitable. 1st Corinthians 10:11, they fell even though they had all the privileges and advantages of being God's people. 1st Corinthians 10:12, thinking that we have it figured out is our ticket to falling because there aren't any exceptions to 1st Corinthians 10:13. Temptation is something we all have in common, any of us is capable of being tempted in almost anything.

2. The Greek words for temptation and trial are exactly the same.

- ✓ The context determines whether we are being tempted or whether it is a trial. The fact is that temptation is a trial, and in every trial there are numerous temptations. Temptations to sin are never sent by God, James 1:13. The opposite is true of "Trials and Testing's," God does send or allow trials in our lives. The purpose of a temptation is destructive, our flesh or the devil is trying to destroy us. Trials, on the other hand, are allowed so that we can grow stronger by enduring them.

3. Temptations are bound up with lies:

- ✓ It's a lie that God temps us. It's a lie that temptation itself is sin, that you are able to be tempted means you have a sinful nature, but having a sinful nature in itself isn't sin, Hebrews 4:15. It is only when we give in to temptation that we have sinned. It's a lie when we think we are unique in or temptation, we are not alone in our temptation. Temptations are not superhuman or supernatural but are "common" to all of us. It's a lie to think that there is no help from God, "God is faithful" there are no supernatural temptations but there is supernatural help! It's a lie that temptation is too strong for us, God would not have allowed it if it were too strong for you. It's a lie to think that there is no way out. this calls into question the faithfulness of God. There is no such thing as a temptation that doesn't have a way out. The ways out aren't what we may like; they may not be pleasant in the short run, but they are the only beneficial way in the long run, ask Joseph!

4. Let's look at this verse from the perspective of a trial or test.

- ✓ Remember, a temptation is a test, and a test has temptations in it. Let's read 1st Corinthians 10:13 using the word "testing" instead of "temptation." Like Joseph, our destination is certain, but our journey is uncertain, many trials along the way. Romans 15:29, 30-32, Paul was told from the beginning what his destiny was but along the way he was nearly killed several times, held in prison for several years, shipwrecked, snake bit, arrived in Rome but not like he had planned, he was in chains. Nevertheless, his accomplishments on that journey were amazing: he stood before the leaders of the Jews and got to give his testimony; he got to stand before Caesar and the leaders of Caesar's court both in Judea and Rome and give his testimony; He authored the books of Philippians, 1st & 2nd Timothy and Titus during his prison stays.

God's way isn't always fun, but it is always best.
