## 1 Corinthians

URGEN

The Apostle Paul's Mission to the Corinthians



**Christ Bible Church** 



#### Adult Bible Class Calendar Spring 2023

	Date		Lesson Portion of 1 Corinthians
1	February	5	Review of 1 Corinthians 1-7 & Preview of 1 Corinthians 8-11
2	February	12	1 Corinthians 8:1-6
3	February	19	1 Corinthians 8:7-13
4	February	26	1 Corinthians 9:1-14
5	March	5	1 Corinthians 9:15-27
6	March	12	1 Corinthians 10:1-13
7	March	19	1 Corinthians 10:14-22
8	March	26	1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1
9	April	2	1 Corinthians 15:1-28
10	April	9	1 Corinthians 15:29-58

Freedom of Conscience Concerning Things God Does Not Forbid or Command 1 Corinthians 8:1-11:1

## 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

CONCERNING FOODS SACRIFICED TO IDOLS (8:1-11:1) The Danger of Presumption—Israel's Typological Forewarning (10:1-13)

#### **Outline of 1 Corinthians**

- I. Introduction (1:1-9).
- II. Responses to Received Reliable Oral Reports from the Corinthians (1:10-6:20).
- III. Responses to a Letter from the Corinthians (7:1-16:4).
  - A. Concerning Marriage and Related Questions (7:1-40).
  - **B.** Concerning Foods Sacrificed to Idols (8:1-11:1).
    - 1. Correcting the Problem: Knowledge and Love (8:1-13).
    - 2. Modeling Proper Use & Non-Use of Christian Freedom (9:1-27).
    - 3. Idolatrous Presumption: Israel's Typological Forewarning (10:1-13).
    - 4. Flee from Idolatry: The Sanctity of the Lord's Table (10:14-22).
    - 5. Instructions for Eating Private Meals: Guard the Consciences of Others (10:23-11:1).

## 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Israel's Idolatrous Presumption: Typological Forewarnings

- Israel's Baptism and Holy Food & Drink (10:1-5).
- Israel's Idolatry and Punishments (10:6-10).
- Israel's Forewarning Typologically Dramatized for Us (10:11-13).

## Israel's Baptism and Holy Food & Drink

1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-5

#### 1 Corinthians 10:1-5

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

#### Connections of Chapters 8, 9, & 10

- 1 Corinthians 8 The problem of eating foods offered to idols and the Christian conscience. There is a place in the church for both those who are "weak in conscience" and those who are "strong in conscience."
- 1 Corinthians 9 The "strong in conscience" should practice their freedom as the Apostle Paul does as he recounts in this chapter. At stake is salvation for all.
- 1 Corinthians 10 Paul warns against the presumption of safety, what might be called a "once for all" posture that renders people insensitive to the ethical demands of the gospel. The danger of reprobation is real.

#### Israel's Baptism and Holy Food & Drink (10:1-5)

- A correlation between the Corinthians and Israel—an OT forewarning.
- Paul's use of the OT assumes knowledge of the OT not by way of the eye but the ear. It was a society marked by speech and hearing.
- Paul preached in Corinth for 18 months (Acts 18:24).
- Israel's blessings—the Passover, the exodus from Egypt, the cloud of divine protection and guidance, a miraculous baptismal deliverance through the sea, the provision of life-giving water from the rock, the heavenly sustenance with manna, and so much more.

#### Israel's Divinely Infused Typological Events

- all under the cloud (Ex 13:21)
- all passed through the sea (Ex 14:21-22, 29)
- all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea
- all ate the same spiritual food (Ex 16:4, 35)
- all drank the same spiritual drink (Ex 17:6; Num 20:7-11)

They drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

#### **Heavenly Reality Earthly Foreshadow** Moses Christ Israel **Christians** • "all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea" ← → • "baptized into Christ" • "all ate the same spiritual food, $\leftrightarrow$ • "body of Christ" and • "drank the same spiritual drink" $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ • "blood of Christ"

 $\leftrightarrow$ 

• Christ, the source of life

• "the spiritual Rock . . . was Christ"

### Linkage Between 1 Cor 9:27 & 10:5

- 1 Corinthians 9:27—"lest I be unapproved."
- •1 Corinthians 10:5— "God did not approve of most of them."

**Paul speaks of** *reprobation* (disapproval) **versus** *approbation* (approval).

## Israel's Idolatry and Punishments

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 10:6-10

Idolatry is the exchanging of the glory of the immortal God for created things.

#### 1 Corinthians 10:6-10

Now these things took place as **types** for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.

#### 1 Corinthians 10:6-10 Things that Call for Attention

Paul points out the tight connection between the testing of the Israelites and the dangers facing the Corinthians.

We must not put *Christ* to the test, as some of them did and were **destroyed** by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were **destroyed** by the Destroyer.

#### 1 Corinthians 10:6-10

We must not put *Christ* to the test, as some of them did and were **destroyed** by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were **destroyed** by the Destroyer.

How did the ancient Israelites "*put Christ to the test*"?

Were they Christ's contemporaries? What does Paul convey about Christ?

#### 1 Corinthians 10:6-10

We must not put *Christ* to the test, as some of them did and were **destroyed** by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were **destroyed** by the Destroyer.

- Christ the Lord was not only **portrayed** in the Old Testament.
- Christ the Lord was **present** throughout the span of the Old Testament's writing.

## Hebrews 11:24-26

By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered *the reproach of Christ* greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

How did Moses accept *the reproach of Christ* as his own? Were Moses and Christ contemporaries? Yes! But Moses did not know Christ as we do.

## Jude 5

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.

Notice the possible wordplay on "Jesus." Is this the OT Jesus (Joshua), or the NT Joshua (Jesus)?

## Hebrews 3:16-19

For, who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? So, we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

#### Paul Itemizes Five Events from Israel's History

- Evil Desires—Craved meat—Quail. God smites them with a plague—"While the meat was yet between their teeth, before it was consumed, the anger of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD struck down the people with a very great plague" (Numbers 11:33). Place called Graves of craving.
- **Golden Calf**—Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." (3000 perished; Exodus 32:6).
- Sexual Immorality—We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. (Moabite women invited Jewish men to sacrifices to their gods; 23K perish; 24K in Numbers 25:1, 9).
- Grumbling—We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents (Bronze Serpent; Numbers 21:4ff; Psalm 78:18).
- Grumbling—nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer (Korah's Rebellion, plague, 14,700 perish; Numbers 16:41-49).

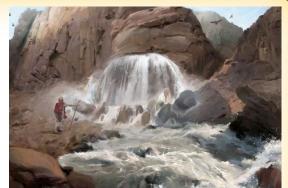
## Israel's Forewarning Dramatized Typologically for Us

1 CORINTHIANS 10:11-13

#### 1 Corinthians 10:11-13

Now these things happened to them **typologically**, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.





## In 1 Corinthians 10, the Apostle Paul Instructs Us Concerning How Scripture Presents Types

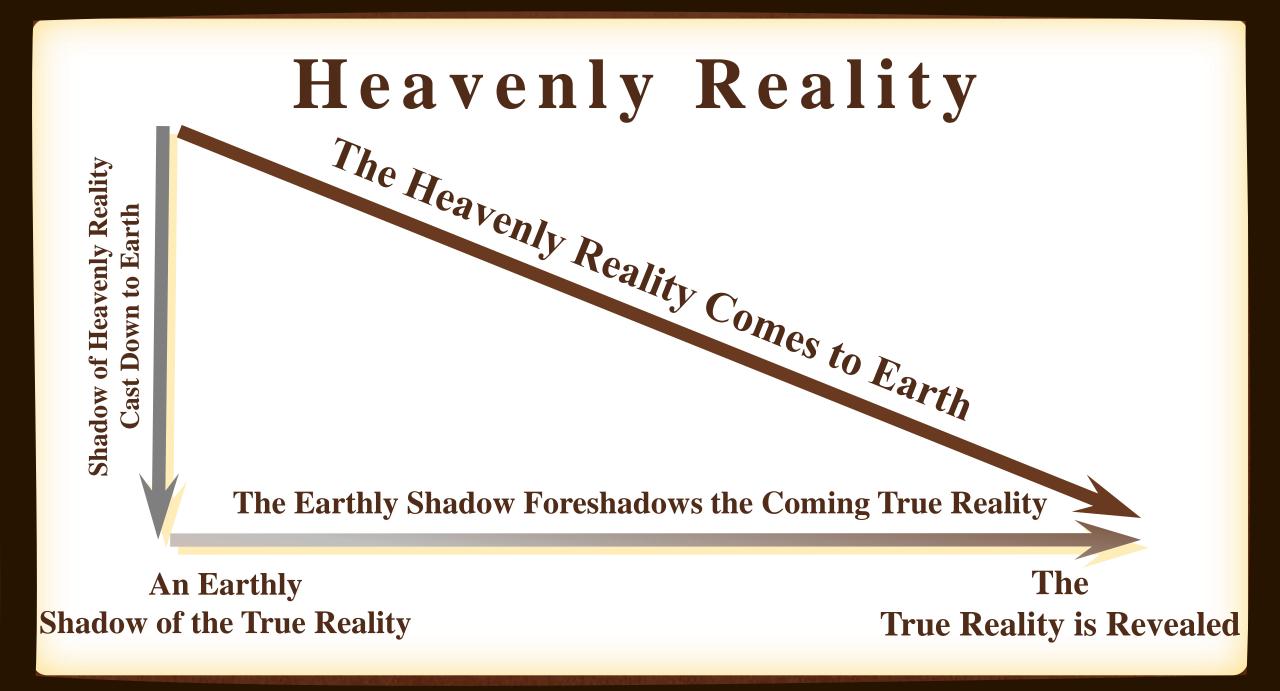


#### **These Things Happened Typologically to Them**

- God is sovereign over every minute detail of history.
- God suffused his creation with symbolic significance: light/dark, oceans/land, male/female, tree of life/tree of the knowledge of good & evil, mountains/valleys, fathers/children, kings/subjects.
- God infuses historical events, institutions, persons, roles, places, settings, etc., with symbolic significance to function as **earthly shadows of heavenly realities** and as **foreshadows of things to come**.
- Foreshadows anticipate fulfillment with the ultimate coming reality in the Messiah.
- Thus, the fulfillment eclipses the foreshadows because the fulfillment is the heavenly reality that comes down to earth, which cast the shadow.

#### These Things Happened Typologically to Them

- The Bible's types are revelatory—Given by God and imbued with symbolic significance.
- God imbued the types with revelatory significance vertically as heavenly shadows and temporally as foreshadows prophesying things to come.
- Though we discern and recognize the Bible's types retrospectively, God infused the Bible's types to with revelatory functions, pointing away from themselves to that which is to come with Christ Jesus.
- Typological interpretation.
  Typological revelation.



# The Heavenly Rock Heavenly Reality Itself Coming to Earth

**OT Shadow Prefigures NT Substance of Reality** 

**Wilderness Rock Shadows the Heavenly Rock** 

Shadow of Heavenly Reality

**Coming Down to Earth** 

**That Rock Was** Christ

#### **Understanding the Bible's Foreshadows**

- Did the Old Testament writers understand that the historical events, institutions, persons, roles, places, and settings that they recorded were divinely infused with symbolism, that they were earthly shadows of heavenly realities?
- Did the Old Testament writers understand that they were recording things that were infused with symbolism?
  Did the Old Testament writers realize they wrote about earthly shadows of heavenly realities?

#### **Presumption Befits Idols Trust Befits the Lord God**

- Therefore, let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.
- The point of Israel's failures is this: If you presume that you are standing securely, watch out lest you fall."
- "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" (Romans 15:4).
- Paul warns about the critical situation the Corinthians face.
- The Corinthians and all Christians must embrace Paul's posture concerning freedom of conscience.
- Our security is in God's faithfulness alone.

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