



Temptations of a
LEADER

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**TEMPTATIONS OF A LEADER
1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-14**

Introduction:

Write on a piece of paper the most difficult temptations we faced last week.

Precedent topic: Paul is talking about the necessary discipline to live victoriously and to be able to proclaim the gospel effectively:

“... I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore, I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.” (1 Corinthians 9:22-27, NIV).

Main topic of the passage: _____

“So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall!”
(v. 12).

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- “No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.” (v. 13).
- “Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry.” (v. 14).

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I. _____
(Example of the People of Israel)

A. The benefits of the _____.

1. “Our ancestors were all under the cloud” (10: 1).
 Direction and guidance from God through the desert.
2. “They all passed through the sea.” (v. 1).
 They left the slavery of Egypt towards the promised land.
3. “They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.” (v. 2).
 - a. They passed through dry land (submerged by Moses in the Red Sea but submerged without water.)
 - b. Baptized in Christ. (Galatians 3:27; Romans 6:3, NIV)
4. “They all ate the same spiritual food.” (v. 3).
 (Exodus 16:4, 14-18, NIV).
 - a. Manna
 - b. “Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” (John 6:35, NIV)
5. “And drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.” (v. 4).
 - a. God provides water through Moses:
 - i. “I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.” So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah[a] and Meribah”
 (Exodus 17:6-7, NIV)

- ii. Numbers 20:7-13, NIV; provides water from the rock, but this time they are about to enter the promised land. Talk about this later.

b. Jesus, _____:

"... but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:14, NIV)

"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified" (John 7:37-39, NIV)

"... And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:20, NIV).

B. The consequences of His people's rebellion.

1 Corinthians 10:5-10

1. Transition keyword:

- a. "Nevertheless" (v. 5)
- b. Although they had all these benefits.

2. Calamity.

- a. "God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness." (v. 5)
- b. Why? (They fell into these temptations)
 - i. "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." (v. 7).
 - 1. Exodus 32:6, (Golden calf scene).
 - ii. "... some of them committed sexual immorality." (v. 8).
 - iii. "... some of them provoked him and were destroyed by serpents." (v. 9). (Numbers 21:6, NIV)
 - John alludes to focusing on Jesus with the example of the bronze serpent: "Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him" (John 3:14-15, NIV).
 - "... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he

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endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2, NIV).

- iv. "And do not grumble, as some of them did and were killed by the destroying angel." (v. 10).

C. The example for today in the middle of difficult circumstances (of desert).

1. _____ to waste time on non-important issues (TV, social networks, etc.)
2. Temptation to fornicate.
3. Temptation to _____ (How do we provoke him?).
4. Temptation to _____ and criticize.
5. Temptation to lie.
6. Temptation to be _____.

D. What is the source of rebellion of God's people?

1. "Do not be idolaters." (v. 7).
2. "So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, "These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt." When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the LORD." So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." (Exodus 32:3-6, NIV)

E. God's word for god's people, the warning (v. 11, 12)

1. "These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come."
2. "So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!"

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**II. The benefits of God for his church
(For faithful and obedient Christians)**

“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13, NIV).

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1. _____ (God is faithful. v. 13)

- a. “Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.” (Deuteronomy 7:9, NIV)
- b. “... Because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.” (Isaiah 49:7, NIV).
- c. “But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not “Yes” and “No.” (2 Corinthians 1:18, NIV).
- d. “The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.” (1 Thessalonians 5:24, NIV)

2. _____.

- a. “God... he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.” (v. 13)
- b. “God... nor does he tempt anyone.” (James 1:13, NIV)
“... the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials” (2 Peter 2:9, NIV).

3. _____.

- a. “... But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.” (v. 13).
- b. “The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.” (Deuteronomy 28:7, NIV)

**III. Which is our part?, action
(the imperative to live victoriously; the personal part.)**

- 1. Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry... so that you can endure it.” (v. 14).
- 2. “Come near to God and he will come near to you.” (James 4:8, NIV)

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- a. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?" (Psalm 139:7, NIV).
 - i. The practice of God's presence.
 - ii. The idea here is that we cannot escape from God's presence.
 - iii. "But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish." (Jonah 1:3, NIV)
- 3. "Submit yourselves, then, to God." (James 4:7, NIV).
 - a. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
 - b. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
 - c. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.
 - d. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (James 4:7-10, NIV).
- 4. The example of Moses
(the temptations of Moses, an example for leadership)
 - a. "The LORD answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink. "So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel."
 - b. "The LORD said to Moses, Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink."
 - c. "So Moses took the staff from the LORD's presence, just as he commanded him. He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?" Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank. But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites,

you will not bring this community into the land I give them." These were the waters of Meribah, where the Israelites quarreled with the LORD and where he was proved holy among them." (Numbers 20:7-13, NIV)

d. The temptation of Moses' rage

- i. Rage that made him lose control to kill the Egyptian.
- ii. Rage that made him lose control to break the stone tablets when he came down from Mount Sinai.
- iii. Rage when striking the rock: "... for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ." (1 Corinthians 10:4, NIV).

e. The temptation to "marry" methodology.

- i. The rod (staff) that makes signs.
- ii. To mix it off with the One that really makes the Signs.
- iii. "Must we bring you water out of this rock?" (Numbers 20:10, NIV)
- iv. "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold." (Ephesians 4:26-27, NIV).
- v. "Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret, it leads only to evil." (Psalm 37:8, NIV)

IV. Conclusions

The final advice

*"Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God, even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."
(1 Corinthians 10:32—11:1, NIV)*

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