

**“Four Groups That Missed Revival”**  
***A Warning To The Self-Sufficient***  
**1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

**Introduction:**

1. Phone man that said that He would call on God if he needed him.
2. Wynn falling down the hill at the lake. Centre block on the bottom.
3. People that find themselves out from under the shelter of the church.

Two Memorable minutes: In 1863 in a field in Pennsylvania during the month of July two men spoke. One man you will remember and one you probably will not remember. They spoke on a field where 51,000 men were either wounded or had died. This was the decisive battle that ended the Civil War. The place was Gettysburg. The speaker after the war was the silver tongued Edward Everette. Lincoln heard of the ceremony and decided to attend. How could they not ask the president to speak? They knew that he would be embarrassed and shown up. What they didn't know was that Lincoln had spent the night on his knees praying asking God to spare the country. Everette spoke for one hour and fifty seven minutes. Lincoln spoke for less than two minutes. Is there anyone in the House of God today that knows what Everette said that day? I would bet that many of you know exactly what Lincoln said that day...

*Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.*

*Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated,*

*can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.*

*But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.*

You see, one man was doing what God called him to do and relied upon God for his message and words. The other man wanted a place in history and relied upon himself. One man was recognized for all of history and the other for the moment. What we do has to be weighed on the scales of time and put in the light of eternity. God's people must be in it for eternity. Impatience and the desires of the flesh will cause you to make poor decisions. God's people missed their promised land while they were wandering in the wilderness. God had to raise up a new group of people for obedience.

I believe that of America survives this wave of immorality that God will have to raise up a new generation of people that love Him and obey. We are the remnant. If America is to be Christian, it will come from those of us that remain.

Here are “Four Groups That Missed The Promised Land or the Revival.” These are the “Self-Sufficient.”

**Context:** Paul the Apostle was trying to explain to the Corinthians that they must not be puffed up and feel that they had all the knowledge that they needed. Paul closes out this chapter with a message about meat offered to idols. He wanted the folks to understand that you stay as far away from sin as you can and that you do not cause your brother to stumble. **Christians today want to get as close to sin as they can and still go to heaven.** We talked last week about honoring God with our witness. If eating meat causes my brother to stumble then I will not eat meat.

### **1 Corinthians 10:23-24**

*“Everything is permissible”-but not everything is beneficial.  
 “Everything is permissible”-but not everything is  
 constructive. Nobody should seek his own good, but the  
 good of others. So whether you eat or drink or whatever  
 you do, do it all for the glory of God. Do not cause anyone  
 to stumble...”*

We are not to think that we are mature enough to handle the meat offered to idols. Stay away. **Do not think that you are self-Sufficient or you may miss the revival.**

Paul says in verse 6 and 11 that these examples are here for us so we can have examples to teach us that we are susceptible to the same problems and sins. Many did not get to go into the Land of Prosperity. Many Baptist will also

miss the revival because of these same mistakes. Some will actually miss heaven altogether. What were the examples?

## **Read text: Verses 1- 13**

### **Four Groups that Missed Revival A Warning to the Self-Sufficient**

#### **1. The Blessed But Unthankful: Verses 1-4~ Guidance**

- **Notice the reference to Guidance:** Paul did not want them to be ignorant of the example of God's guidance to their forefathers. He brings up the OT passages that dealt with the Exodus.
  - a. Don't forget the importance of your parent's deliverances. Spiritual history and experiences are valuable.
  - b. The Corinthians needed to remember the past.
- Paul wanted them to have Knowledge... true knowledge.
- Don't forget from where your blessings came.
- Notice the reference to the cloud. The **Cloud refers to guidance and protection.** There was a visible presence of Yahweh.
- Have you ever tried to picture the deliverance from Egypt? What do you do to make yourself visible to 4 million people?

Have you ever been at the wrong place at the right time? You thought it was all wrong but God wanted it to be that way so He could make it all right. God leads His dear children along. That's guidance at the right time even when you have sinned and gone the wrong direction.

- The cloud and fire were high in the air for all to see. When God moved, the people moved. All had access to the direction.
- You have to trust the cloud and pillar of fire. The way may be slow, or may take longer, but it is God's way. We may not go straight to the promise land, but it is God's guidance, and it is best.
- God took them the long way around to get to the Promised Land. Why? God was not concerned that He could not get them into the Land of Milk and Honey. He was using the desert and their enemies to build a nation. Their holiness was more important than when they arrived.

**Illustration:** Robert Louis Stevenson (Scottish Novelists) told a story of a vessel caught in a terrible storm. The lives of all the passengers were at risk. They all felt doomed. In the midst of the terror, one weak and fearful man, contrary to orders, made his way to the deck and went into the pilothouse and saw that the steersman had lashed himself to the steering post and inch by inch brought the vessel off the rocks and moved it towards safety. The steersman saw the onlooker and turned to him and smiled. The man went back below deck and gave out a glorious note of cheer and hope... 'All is well, I have seen the pilots face and he smiled at me.' With equal assurance we should do the same. (602 cyclo of Bib Ill.)

### **Psalm 105:36-45**

*36 Then he struck down all the firstborn in their land, the firstfruits of all their manhood. 37 He brought out Israel, laden with silver and gold, and from among their tribes no one faltered. 38 Egypt was glad when they left, because dread of Israel had fallen on them. 39 He spread out a cloud as a covering, and a fire to give light at night. 40 They*

asked, and he brought them quail and satisfied them with the bread of heaven. 41 He opened the rock, and water gushed out; like a river it flowed in the desert. 42 For he remembered his holy promise given to his servant Abraham. 43 He brought out his people with rejoicing, his chosen ones with shouts of joy; 44 he gave them the lands of the nations, and they fell heir to what others had toiled for-- 45 that they might keep his precepts and observe his laws.  
Praise the LORD.

### **Exodus 13:21-22**

*“By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.”*

### **Exodus 14:21-30**

*21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, 22 and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. 23 The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. 24 During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. 25 He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." 26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." 27 Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea*

*went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. 28 The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen--the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.*

*29 But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.*

- The people were blessed, period. They never went one inch in any direction that was not God's will.

### **Verse 2: The Israelites went through the Red Sea~ Leadership.**

- Passed through the sea- **dierchomai**- to pierce through, to pass, to depart, walk through, travel. When people doubt the Red Sea crossing I think of this word in the text. They pierced through. If you walked through the Red Sea, what's the problem with trusting God now? We walked through the valley of the shadow of death. That's not good enough for us?
- They were baptized into Moses, which simply means they followed (identified with) his leadership. **Acts 19:1-4** shows another place that baptism is used as a sign of submission. The followers were baptized as a sign of submission to John and his teachings. Paul told the Corinthians to do the same. In baptism we submit to Jesus' authority in our lives. We identify with Him.
- One aspect that can't be overlooked is that the Israelites were baptized or immersed under the cloud and sea to follow Moses' Leadership. The word **baptizo** is used figuratively here to represent being under God and Moses' leadership and identifying with each in submission. Immersion represents identity and submission to Christ. Not sprinkling.

- If your leader is following God, he will take you through the Red Sea every once in a while.
- God's people today have a great problem with leadership. We are living in a day when people hate to be told what to do. It is the great day of pride. We have taught our children to rebel against authority. Many parents don't even discipline their children anymore.
- The modern church sees church differently than it did years ago. The preaching of the Word, Sunday School, discipleship and holy worship are not good enough anymore. Church is a place where you go to rest and be entertained. I am going to challenge you. I am not going to let us get stagnate. If you want to ride the bench do it by yourself.
- You can train, disciple, love, support and minister to people and then they do what? ***They go off and die in the wilderness. They were blessed and did not know it.***

**Illustration:** Dr. Rogers message on authority. God does not give authority to rebels. Our wives and children do not submit to us men because we do not submit to the authority God puts in our lives. If you have authority and are a rebel, God didn't give you the authority, you took it.

- The point is that God has given us protection and leadership. We are blessed. So were the Jews. They blew it.

**Verse 3-** They were given spiritual food and drink~

**Provisions and Protection (Sounds like Psalm 23 doesn't it?)**

- Most of us have been spoiled on good preaching and good music.

- Comfy chairs. Some folks come to WBC and see the partitions and go somewhere else (When we were in the warehouse). Some folk would never dare be baptized in a portable baptistery. They say, “I’m not doing Sunday School in a trailer.” Some people had SS with a wet floor cause the baptistery leaked. They were awesome. I actually had someone tell me the pavilion was the dumbest thing we ever did. Now, think of all the great times we have had under that pavilion? Think of what The Bruskie and Browns could do with that pavilion. We, like the Israelites, can be so uppity and whiney. One time someone mistakenly thought the antifreeze in the pavilion bathroom was not antifreeze. Said our church was nasty. Ungrateful Karen she was.
- God is the eternal source of all provisions. When we find Christ you get something that has no bottom in it. It’s about where the Holy Spirit rests, not the building. The provisions of God were in the wilderness. Do you think they had a fellowship hall in the desert? They didn’t even have a Jiffy John there.
- But they drank from The Eternal Rock that was Christ. ***He provides!!!*** Your church may be rich and the people bankrupt spiritually. To uppity people, the facility is more important than the spiritual Rock and Food. I want to know if the Bread of Life and The Living Water is served? Is the Holy Spirit there?
- The Jews had Jesus Christ leading them and feeding them and that was not good enough. If Jesus isn’t enough for ya, go somewhere else. **The Greek word is pneumatikos.** This refers to regeneration, spiritual, ethereal, supernatural entity. That describes the food and drink they had. Jesus Himself.
- **Did you see the last blessing? Akolouthouses-** Present Active Participle. To continually follow. To be in the way with, to reach, To accompany. To follow, to

journey with. Jesus was leading in the front and following in the back. What else did they need.

### **Illustration: Mathematical Miracle of the Quartermaster General.**

2-3 million people, 1,500 tons of food a day, 2 freight trains a mile long, 4000 tons of fire wood a day, 11 million gallons of water a day for 40 years, needed 3 miles to go across 5000 abreast to go in one night, to camp they needed 2/3 of Rhode Island 750 square miles. Now let me ask you. After all that, how could they die in the wilderness and not believe God?

#### **Exodus 17:1-7**

*“The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses replied, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?” But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?” Then Moses cried out to the LORD, “What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The LORD answered Moses, “Walk on ahead 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. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, “**Is the LORD among us or not?**”*

Guidance... Leadership... Protection... Provisions~ The Shelter of the Nation. The most blessed people on the planet, died in the wilderness.

Get this... Jesus, traveling with, providing for, and guiding them, and following them, was not good enough? If you are not right with God on a personal level, no church will suit you. No building will be good enough. No pastor will be sufficient enough. -

## 2. The Rebellious or Faithless: Verse 5

- God was not pleased. The bible says that without faith it is impossible to please God.
- Numbers 14:1-12 tells how the people acted after exploration of the Land. No faith.

### Numbers 14:1-12

*“That night all the people of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, “If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this desert! Why is the LORD bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?” And they said to each other, “We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt.” Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown in front of the whole Israelite assembly gathered there. Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes and said to the entire Israelite assembly, “The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. **If the LORD is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land**, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the*

*land, because we will swallow them up. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them.”*

***But the whole assembly talked about stoning them.***  
*Then the glory of the LORD appeared at the Tent of Meeting to all the Israelites. The LORD said to Moses, “How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them? I will strike them down with a plague and destroy them, but I will make you into a nation greater and stronger than they.”*

- **Learn this lesson.** What you are most afraid of will come true without faith. They were afraid they would die in the desert because of fear. That is exactly what happened, but it was due to rebellion, not a lack of provision from God. **We have never failed because God didn't supply what we needed.**

**Illustration:** There are times when the people that have no faith enjoy the blessings of the people that went before them that did have faith.

The church today is characteristic of this. The Generation-Xers and post-modernists are like this. Thrill me and fill or I will take my tithe somewhere else. I call them crybabies. Church vagabonds.

**Greek:** God was not pleased with them. Two words form this word for pleased. Good and reputation (**Eudokeo**). The people could not be accountable. Their reputation was not good. There was no good account of the people of which one may speak.

They were scattered across the desert. **Katta and stronnumi**, to strew, spread or scatter. Their disobedience

and lack of faith caused a scattering of death. Was what they saw leaving Egypt not enough to create trust in God. This group wanted to return to slavery; we do too at times.

### **Illustration:**

How glad we should be that we are not saved by how well we explain, understand, or convey truths, but by how we simply believe in Christ. We enjoy and accept other mysteries that we cannot explain. **William Jennings Bryan** used to love two illustrations to explain faith.

- Brown seed in black soil... a green shoot comes up...pull it up to get a red root... cut it open and get a white radish and you never try to explain that.
- Red cow... green grass... white milk... yellow butter.

**Greek: To be scattered or overthrown.** This word means to prostrate. To humble or overthrow. It is when God comes in and takes over. He over rules a person's life. The great fear they had of dying in the desert happened any way. If we die in the wilderness let it happen in accordance with His will. Amen!!!

- They ended up in the **eremos**. The desert, wilderness, desolation. Do you know people that are blessed but unthankful. How about the people without faith. These folks end up in the wilderness.

### **3. The Immoral: Verses 6-9**

**Verse 6:** Notice that these examples are to warn us. It can still happen today. God will discipline us also. God is still in the punishment business. We need a good dose of *The Fear of the Lord*. *By the way, Paul is using the Old Testament as*

*an example to warn us to not do the same things as they did. Mr. Stanley needs to read this.*

- **2 Sam 12:12-13** tells us that what David did in secret would be told from the rooftop. If David would not have repented, God was going to kill him.
- **Verse 6** tells us **not** to set our hearts on wicked things. The Greek text uses **epithumetes**, the word for **“lust.”**

**Psalm 101:3**

*“I will set before my eyes  
No vile thing.”*

- We are to avoid evil things. We must be mentally in charge. Do not **set** (Lust) your heart on evil things.

**Ephesians 4:17-19**

*“So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are **darkened** in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the **hardening** of their hearts. Having lost all **sensitivity**, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a **continual** lust for more.”*

- **Verse 7-** What is idolatry? Anything that we put before God. We mold it and then it molds us. They sat down and then rose up to play.
- The **Greek** says, **“to sport, or play.”** The sin of the people had progressed into idolatry. The main problem that the Jews had for thousands of years was idolatry. God promised to get idolatry out of their lives and He did. Today, they have many sins but idolatry is not one of them.

- America could be so blessed as to not be idol worshippers.
- We are the idol worshippers of Laodicea:

**Rev 3:14-20**

14 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. 15 I know your deeds, that **you are neither cold nor hot**. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm — neither hot nor cold — I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17 **You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.'** But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. 20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

NIV

- How many Baptists do you know who have done this....
  - They sat down- lazy
  - Ate and drank- Took care of the physical
  - Got up to play- To party is to live

What kind of a testimony is that?

**Ex 32:5-8**

5 And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.

6 And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; **and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.**

7 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves:

8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

KJV

- **Verse 8** uses the word **porneuo** for sexual immorality. We get our word for pornography from this word. Pagan revelry means, “to play.” To play the harlot. **Bondage Sins!!!!**
- If I am correct, and I think I am, I believe that the people participated in adulterous and pagan sexual immorality in worship as they worshipped the golden calf. That’s what Moses saw when he returned from the top of the mountain. What a sight of disappointment after just having revived the Ten Commandments.
- The reason that sexual sins are so hard to get away from is that it excites to whole person. You grow cold in your walk with God and you will be easy prey. Satan will make you believe that the response of your body makes

you alive. It is all a lie. It is almost impossible to get men and women off this material. Do not go there in the first place.

- I have actually had men tell me, “worshipping God has never given me this type of physical response of pleasure as participating is sexual immorality.” There is so much to unpack from that statement but we don’t have time. For the time being, you must know that the physical response is a liar. That response will not last and will need support just like any other drug. The Word of God says you are being deceived.

### **1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

*“The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.”*

- What you do in your own home is not your own business. It’s you and your God’s business. You were bought with a price.

### **Sins they committed:**

Lust, worshipped idols, fornication, tempted God, complained, lost faith, blasphemy in worship. Literally breaking all Ten Commandments that Moses just had received.

➤ In one day... 23,000 people fell dead due to judgment.

## **4. The Grumblers: Verse: 9-10**

### **Numbers 21:4-5**

“They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! **And we detest this miserable food!**”

- If you had seen the miracles that God did among this people, could you say such a thing? If you saw God provide thousands of pounds of meat and thousands of gallons of water each day could you complain? A backslidden Baptist will every time.
- Have you ever noticed that soul winners don't complain?
- If the preacher handed out 20\$ bills on Sunday, someone would ask for two tens.
- [Word Study NT:1111 gogguzo \(gong-good'-zo\); to grumble: onomatopoeic](#)  
[KJV – murmur \(The shin kickers and toe stompers\)](#)
- Listen, the complainers and moaners did not go into the promise land. They missed the glory. They missed the revival so to speak.

- **We are never so unlike Jesus as when we are complaining.**
- God sent snakes among the people.

### **Jude 14-16**

*“Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: “See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” **These men are grumblers and faultfinders;** they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves (speak great swelling words) and flatter others for their own advantage.”*

**Numbers 16:41-** Korah’s rebellion. Many were sucked into the earth for complaining and rebellion. Don’t test the Lord. Just keep it up and you will find out. God hates complaining.

**Illustration:** Murmuring wastes energy. If we spend as much time sharing and ministering to young Christians, and to the lost, as we do complaining, we can make some headway on this lost world. **Grumbling is not a spiritual gift.**

**Illustration:** Parking lot tickets at CHBC, even the pastor’s car got one.

**Illustration:** A heavy wagon was being pulled along a country road by a team of oxen. The wheels groaned and creaked terribly. The oxen turned around and spoke to the wheels: “Hey there, why do you make so much noise? We bear all the labor, and we, not you, should be the ones crying out” (7700, 3754).

## Epigrams:

- To swear is wicked for it takes God's name in vain. To murmur is likewise wicked for it takes God's promises in vain.
- When in deep water, it is good to keep your mouth shut.

### Spiritual Application

If you have one of these problems you need to get it right today. Don't let it go on one more day. You will miss the revival if you let sin reign in your heart. You might also get humbles and die in the wilderness.

- **The Blessed But Unthankful-** Take heed. Do not let your blessings put you to sleep. Don't let your blessings make you think you are above reproach or that you are being blessed because God sees your righteousness.
- **The Rebellious or Unfaithful-** God can be trusted. (v. 13) What you are afraid of will happen anyway without faith.
- **The Immoral-** God judges sin. Your sin will find you out. A clean heart is what he wants.
- **The Grumblers-** notice that verse 13 uses the phrase "common" to man. We are all cut out of the same cloth. We desperately need to remember that we are all sinful. I pray that while you are in the middle of slandering someone God will remind you of who you really are. If complaining is your unspiritual gift... do not use it. Watch out for the destroying angel and the snakes.

### Application: Verse 11-13

**Verse 11** uses the phrase "**fulfillment of the ages**" or as the ESV says "**on whom the end of the ages has come.**" We above all people should never take our blessings for

granted, never live without faith, and be rebellious, never be immoral, and never ever, ever, ever grumble and complain because the fulfillment of the ages has come upon us.

That means that all that God wanted to reveal in the OT, and for the last 6 thousand years, has been revealed to us in these days.

Paul warns us that these examples can and will happen to us. The time is short. What did Paul mean by *the end of the age*? I think he us saying , **“Jesus can arrive at any moment.”**

**Verse 12:** Don't use your freedom in Christ to get as close to sin as you can. Use your freedom in Christ to strengthen your brother. If you think, “I got this”... Be careful.

**Verse 13:** The context to this verse is temptation not trials. The idea that God will not put more on you than you can stand is not in this verse. God will give you what you can't handle, I promise. As a matter of fact, Paul just reminded them that they need to take heed because they can't handle things (v. 12). God will put more on you than you can handle so that He can help you handle what He gives you.

**Anthropinos**- common to man.

The Greek for temptation is **peirasmos**. Translated as “a putting to the proof.” Also to solicit, try provocation, or discipline. Context is important because all the words for temptation and trial can be interchanged. In this context and in James, where a different word is used, temptation is the context.

### **James 1:13-15**

13 When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me."  
For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt

anyone; 14 but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

NIV

God does not tempt us to sin but will test our faith in trials to build our Christian maturity. Notice how James uses this same word but in a context of trials and testing. Context is King.

### **James 1:2-8**

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face **trials (peirasmos)** of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. 6 But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

NIV

1 Corinthians 10 has a context of immorality.

**When we are being tempted to sin, God gives a way of escape. We must learn to take it. When we are in trials, we may have to stay in the trial until God is finished molding us and shaping us. There is no way of escape. We have to learn to endure.**

Look for the escape: **Ekbasis**. Ex and Foot, Get your feet moving towards the exit.

**Closing:** David Macdonald missed it. Larrell Grey missed it. Temptation destroyed both.

**Closing:** I fell in the creek after surgery. I made it across the first time and then fell crossing in a small spot I could step over.

Don't be tempted by these four things that destroyed the people of God. Heed the warning and walk close to Jesus.