**Chapter 10 contains one of the most powerful promises for Christians in the New Testament, worthy of being memorized and frequently meditated upon: verse 13. In this chapter, Paul teaches the Corinthian believers important truths about Spirit-led living. To do so, he takes them back to the Old Testament trials and tribulations of the nation of Israel in the wilderness. These accounts are taken from the Books of Exodus and Numbers.**

**The city of Corinth presented many TEMPTATIONS to the saints who lived there. A center of international trade and commerce, Corinth had a large transient population (merchants, traders, sailors, and land travelers), consisting mostly of men. A thriving entertainment industry catered to their carnal desires – among them, the notorious temples of the goddess Aphrodite, which provided hundreds of prostitutes. The widespread idolatry of those days created a smorgasbord of places of worship for the mostly pagan residents of Corinth (as we saw in Chapter 8). There were other places where amusements of all kinds were available. The Greeks of Paul’s day had even created a word which meant “to act like a Corinthian” to describe immoral conduct of the most extreme measure. How could the Lord expect a Christian to live a holy life under such conditions?**

**Christians today face similar challenges. The world has many allurements that call us to indulge in them. Technology makes it possible for us to invite them into the privacy of our own homes. Even a worldly first-century Corinthian might blush at the sights and sounds of our modern times. The (so-called) “adult” entertainment industry generates somewhere between $6 - $15 BILLION dollars per year. We see the effects of this on an almost daily basis – some great evangelical leader is exposed as an adulterer, child molester, or pornography addict. God’s Word, especially verses like I Corinthians 10:13, tells us that it doesn’t have to be so – we can live victoriously, even in these tempting times.**

1. **Read verses 1-4. When Paul says, “all our fathers”, to what people or nation is he referring? (v. 1)**
2. **What were they under, and through what did they pass? (v. 1) Answer: They were under the and they passed through the . (Hint: read Exodus 13:21-22 and Exodus 14:19-31)**
3. **Paul compares this experience with what ORDINANCE of the Christian church? (v. 2) Answer: The ordinance of . (Hint: read Matthew 3:13-17, 28:18-20; John 1:29-34)**
4. **What was the spiritual “meat” (KJV) or “food” (NIV) did they all eat? (v. 3) Answer: It was . (See Exodus 16:11-35 and Numbers 11:7-9)**
5. **What was the spiritual “drink” that they all drank, and where did it come from? (v.4) Answer: They from that that *FOLLOWED* them. (See Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 20:2-12)**
6. **WHO was that ROCK? (v. 4) Answer: That Rock was .**
7. **Read verses 5-11. In spite of these blessings, what happened to “many of them” in the wilderness? (v. 5) Answer: They were . BONUS: the Greek word is “katastronnumi”. What English word do we get from it? Answer: .**
8. **Why were they overthrown in the wilderness? (v. 5) What does this teach us about the importance of conducting our lives in such a manner as to PLEASE God?**
9. **From this passage (v. 5-11), how many ways did Israel displease God in the wilderness? Answer: .**
10. **What was the FIRST act of displeasure listed by Paul? (v. 6) Answer: They (the nation of Israel) after . (Numbers 11:4-6, 18-20, 31-34. See also James 4:1-4, I Peter 2:11, I John 2:15-17)**
11. **What was Israel’s SECOND act of displeasure in the wilderness? (v. 7) Answer: Some of them were . (Exodus 32:1-6, 19-28. See also Ephesians 5:1-6; Colossians 3:5-6)**
12. **What was the THIRD way that “some of them” displeased God during the wilderness journey? (v. 8) Answer: They committed . (Numbers 25:1-9. See also I Thessalonians 4:1-7; Jude 1:5-7; Revelation 2:18-23)**
13. **What was the FOURTH act of displeasure that some of them committed? (v. 9) Answer: They Christ. (See Numbers 21:4-9. See also Psalm 78:18-32)**
14. **What was the FIFTH and last way that some of them displeased God that Paul listed in this passage? (v.10) Answer: They . (Numbers 16:41-50; see also Numbers 14:26-39; Philippians 2:14-16; Jude 1:4-16)**
15. **What is the value of studying these past events? In other words, how can we, the church, apply these to our living today? (v. 11) Answer: Paul states that these things were written for our (or, warning).**
16. **Read verse 12. What should a Christian do when everything seems to be going well and they are living a victorious life? Answer: They should “ , lest they .” (See Judges 16:15-21; II Samuel 11:1-5)**
17. **Read verses 13. This verse teaches us that, contrary to popular thinking, God is NOT absent when we are being tempted. NO! God is ever present in the life of the believer, and if possible, even more so in the hour of temptation. In your own words, what does the first part of this verse (“There is no temptation taken you but such as is common to man”) tell us about temptation, and why is that important?**
18. **What important facts are revealed about God’s presence in the second part of this great verse? Answer: God is . In your own words, describe what this means (or should mean!) to you.**
19. **What TWO IMPORTANT THINGS does God actually do when we are tempted? Answer: He will not (allow or permit) you to be tempted that you are (to resist). And, He makes a for you to .**
20. **WHY does God do all that He does when we are tempted? Answer: He does all of these things so that we may be to it. (See James 1:2-3)**
21. **What kind of EXCUSES do we tend to make when we YIELD to temptation, and sin? In light of what God promises to do when we are tempted, are they VALID excuses?**
22. **Read verses 14-23. “Wherefore” connects this passage to what Paul has taught before. The idolatry of Corinth represented and ever-present source of temptation to all of the believers. Paul now examines it from a spiritual perspective. While the idol itself has no power, value or meaning, there are dangerous forces at work BEHIND the idol. What does Paul instruct the Corinthians to do about the WORSHIP of idols? (v. 14) Answer: He tells them to . See also Galatians 5:19-21; Colossians 3:5-7.**
23. **In what way is Paul speaking to the Corinthians? What should they do in return? (v. 15) Answer: He spoke to them as to the . They were to what he was saying to them.**
24. **Paul mentions the “cup of blessing”. What does it represent? (v. 16) Answer: it represents “the of the of .” See also Matthew 26:27-28**
25. **Paul goes on to ask about “the bread which we break”. What does it represent? (v. 16) Answer: It is “the of the of .” See also Matthew 26:26-27**
26. **Receiving Communion together is evidence that all Christians are . (v. 17) See also John 17:11-23; Romans 12:4-5; Ephesians 4:5-6**
27. **Paul looks back past Christianity to the religion of Israel. What is true of the people who “eat the sacrifices”? (v. 18) Answer: They are of the .**
28. **Now Paul compares the Christian and Jewish practices to those of the idol-worshipping pagans. (v. 19-20) Even though the idol itself has no significance, what is the “hidden truth” about the worship of idols? Answer: “The things that the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to , and not to .” (See Deuteronomy 32:15-18; II Chronicles 11:14-16; Psalm 106:34-39)**
29. **What does Paul say to those knowledgeable, “puffed up” Corinthians who thought that they could not only eat food dedicated to idols, but even attend idol worship services as if it meant nothing? (v. 20-21) State in your own words.**
30. **When these Christians did attend and participate in idol worship ceremonies, what “spiritual risk” were they taking? (v. 22) Answer: they ran the risk of provoking the Lord to . See also Deuteronomy 4:23-24; 6:14-15**
31. **Compare verse 23 in this chapter to I Corinthians 6:12. What is similar? What is different? Why do you think Paul repeats and reapplies this teaching here?**
32. **Read verses 24-31. Paul now summarizes his teaching on the matter of how Christians should relate to the unbelievers of their day with respect to their religious beliefs and practices. What is the “guiding principle” that Paul continues to emphasize in verse 24? Answer: “let no man his .” What should we do instead? State in your own words.**
33. **How should the Corinthians feel about eating any meats that are purchased in the “shambles” (butcher’s markets)? What scriptural support does Paul give? (v. 25-26)**
34. **How should a Corinthian Christian feel about being invited to a dinner hosted by a person who does not believe in Jesus? (v. 27) Answer: If you accept the invitation and go, you can “ , asking no for sake.”**
35. **On the other hand, what should the Believer do if someone calls attention to the fact that the meats being served were “offered in sacrifice to idols”, and why? (v. 28-30) Answer: the Christian should , for that called attention to the fact.**
36. **Whose conscience decides how the Christian acts in this situation? (v. 29)**
37. **What important act should a Christian perform before eating any meal? (v. 30-31) (Hint: see I Timothy 4:4-5)**
38. **Read verses 32-33. These verses both summarize the key points of Paul’s teaching for this chapter and introduce us to the subject of the next – how Christians should relate to the CULTURE that surrounds the church. What should every believer try NOT to do when dealing with others, regardless of their religion, and why? Answer: the believer should try not to anyone, be they Christian, Jew, or unbeliever (Gentile), so that more people may be .**