

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

I Corinthians 10:1-13

Faith & selfishness... Good & Evil

Vs. 1-4, God blessed them all with the same provision & experience

- Yet they did not all come to the same end

Vs. 5, But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

- No one gets in on the family plan.
Experience doesn't qualify anyone.
(More about that story in **Hebrews 3:7-4:16**)

(1:4-7) So too with these Corinthians

- Now they are squabbling among each other & against Paul (**Vs. 10-12 & 9:1-14**)

Vs. 6 & 11, Now **these things became our examples**, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted... Now **these things happened to them as examples**, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

- When God repeats Himself, we should really pay attention

"That we should not **lust after evil things** as they also lusted"

- **What is evil?** This word means "worthless"
- **Not of God.** Of no eternal value (**Rom. 12:21 & 14:23**)
- Especially when chosen **instead of** eternal value
- Other **NT** words for evil mean harmful, or destructive

Vs. 7, And **do not become idolaters** as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play."

- **What is idolatry?** To serve as valuable anything without, or other than God.
- **Can ministry become idolatry?** (What **God does more than who He is**)

Vs. 8-10 All are idolatry, because they are selfish choices over reverence for Christ

The antidote is in **10:31**, Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

- So, is whatever we're doing/serving to God's glory... of eternal value to Him?

What do our lives communicate to be most important to us?

- Reform and restoration in the world, or in the church?
- What He wants among us, or what we want in our culture?
- The Church is God's greatest influence in the world (**I John 4:17**)

Are **our rights**, or our **impact on others** in His behalf most important?

- And who are we living for – us or Him?

*If we've mixed the two, **which is predominant?***

- *The difference is between righteousness & idolatry*
- *It's not just about a golden calf*

Which do we yearn for most...

- *To be good citizens on earth, or good citizens of heaven?*

***John 20:21**, Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! **As the Father has sent Me**, I also send you."*

- *Has He sent us as He sent them?*
- *What did they do?*

***John 18:36**, Jesus answered, "**My kingdom is not of this world**. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight... but **now** My kingdom is not from here."*

- *One day it will be. **But not now***

Are our lives contending for anything?

***Jude 3**, Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to **contend earnestly** for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.*

- *I highly recommend "**Kingdoms In Conflict**" by Chuck Colson*

***Vs. 12**, Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.*

- *Our life of faith in Christ does not run on auto-pilot*
- *Even our cars today train us to avoid personal responsibility*

***Vs. 13**, No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

Where do we look when tempted? To the temptation, like Eve did?

- *Or **from it** to Christ? **Hebrews 12:2***

Can faith in Him ever be unlike Him?

- *Can what we do in His name be **what He would not?***
- *Are we investing ourselves in what **He did not do or teach?***
- *If so, we've found our way into **evil idolatry**. Wood, hay & stubble at best.*