

Paul is continuing to teach on our liberty in Christ. Things not forbidden by scripture as morally wrong are often called grey areas. If we spend the time necessary in God's word to learn the heart of God we can often make better choices in these areas so it does not negatively influence others. Skirting too close to any edge is considered foolish by most wise thinking people.

Paul spends his time in this chapter warning believers not only of the negative influence we can have on others but how it can seriously affect our walk of faith.

Read the chapter once or twice before beginning. You might like to go to the website www.biblegateway.com and listen to the text read aloud. Pray and ask God to help you see what he is speaking to you today. Make this lesson personal.

1. Look at vss. 1-4. Highlight your answer in the text.
2. How many were guided by God's presence as a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night?
3. How many passed through the Red Sea and were delivered by God from the Egyptians who had been in hot pursuit?
4. *It is important for us to remember this was God's deliverance of his people not their personal salvation experience. God has always dealt with men and women individually, not corporately. God had called them out of Egypt and now was leading them in order for them to come to know him.*
5. How many were baptized into Moses?
6. What do you understand about the way they followed Moses from reading verse 2?

Interesting choice of words Paul uses here "baptized" that word in the Greek is Baptizo and it means to completely submerge or immerse. Even though they did not always unquestionably follow Moses, they did look to him as their leader.

7. How many ate and drank the blessed provision that God had given them during this time?
8. Who was their provision? Who is our (believers) provision today? vs. 4
9. Just for fun here is a trivia question. Verse 5 says that "God was not pleased with most of them..." how many was he actually pleased with? What do you base your answer on?

10. What was God's desire for the nation of Israel? Deut. 14:2

"for you are a people holy to the LORD your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the LORD has chosen you to be his treasured possession.."

11. What does Paul say was the good that came from the disobedience of the Israelites? Vs.

12. Do you believe that even some of the bad situations you have endured because of disobedience could be used today as examples to others?

13. List the sins from vss. 7-11? Look carefully

14. Would you rate them all the same?

15. God was not finished with Israel. In Jeremiah 31:31-34 he declares his love for his people and the future plans he has for them.

"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, " declares the LORD. 33 "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 34 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

16. What is Paul's warning in Vs. 12-13?

17. Verse 13 is translated slightly different in many different translations of the Bible.

ESV “but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.”

GNT “at the time you are put to the test, he will give you the strength to endure it, and so provide you with a way out.”

The Message “he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it.”

NIV “But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.”

18. Do not pass too quickly over verse 13; what is the wonderful promise to us given there? Note the character quality of God found in this verse.

19. How will knowing this truth benefit you the next time you are enduring a temptation?

20. What is God's provision in our temptation?

21. What are we instructed to do in verse 14?

22. Look up 1 Cor. 6:18; 1 Tim. 6:11; 2 Tim. 2:22; James 4:7

What instructions are we given in these verses? List them

Verses 16-17 As believers we recognize this is the observance of the Lord's Supper. It is what we do in remembrance of him. We share this meal together as a picture of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. (Matt. 26:26) It represents the body that was broken for us and the blood that was shed. Christ bore our sins once for all and we do this to remember and rekindle our hearts to walk in holiness. We will discuss this more next week in chapter 11.

23. Write vss. 23-24 in your own words.

All of the questions they raised about eating certain meats that had been possibly offered to idols have been addressed by Paul.

24. What is the bottom line concerning what we eat and drink?
25. We should always be concerned about doing things that might cause another person stumble in their daily walk. How can we avoid this without becoming a legalist? Vs.27
26. According to vs. 31 what is to be my focus each day?
27. What was God's original plan for the man and woman in Gen. 1:28?
28. What did he say about his creative work in Gen. 1: 31?
29. What would that kind of focus do for you?
30. Think about yesterday, did you do everything you did "for the glory of God"?
31. What does Paul say his daily focus is? What is the reason and motive behind his actions? Vs. 33
32. The original letter was not divided into chapters and verses, look ahead to chapter 11:1.
33. What is Paul's invitation to those reading this letter?
34. Would you be willing to say that if you were writing to another believer? If not, why not?