



1 Corinthians 10:1-5

1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, **2** and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, **3** and all ate the same spiritual food, **4** and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. **5** Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

*Paul writes, "I do not want you to be unaware" or in the NIV translation, "I do not want you to be ignorant." What does he want the church to know? For one of his references, **read Exodus 17:1-7.***

We are told not to be ignorant, but a common saying is "Ignorance is bliss." Why do people believe this? What do you think about such a view?

Jesus is not mentioned in the events Paul is referring to, but clearly Paul states, "the Rock was Christ." How can he make such an assertion about Jesus Christ being in the Old Testament? What does that say about how we are to view Jesus?

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

6 Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. **7** Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." **8** We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. **9** We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, **10** nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. **11** Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. **12** Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. **13** No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

The stories of the Old Testament can point us to Christ and "took place as examples for us." We can learn from them and from their mistakes, or we will make those mistakes ourselves. What stories of the OT have been especially helpful to you?

Jesus, in becoming flesh, lived a human life like ours. The temptations that are "common to man" tempted Jesus, too. Is it encouraging to know that God is familiar with our temptations and that he promises to be faithful to us, seeing us through? How can God provide escape from temptation?

1 Corinthians 10:14-22

14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. **15** I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. **16** The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? **17** Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. **18** Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? **19** What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? **20** No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. **21** You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. **22** Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

*When Paul writes about a cup and the bread, to what is he referring? If you want to find out more, **read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.***

When we take of the cup and the bread in communion, what happens? What does Paul say that it signifies?

1 Kings 12:1-11

1 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king. **2** And as soon as Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard of it (for he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), then Jeroboam returned from Egypt. **3** And they sent and called him, and Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel came and said to Rehoboam, **4** "Your father made our yoke heavy. Now therefore lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke on us, and we will serve you." **5** He said to them, "Go away for three days, then come again to me." So the people went away. **6** Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he was yet alive, saying, "How do you advise me to answer this people?" **7** And they said to him, "If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants forever." **8** But he abandoned the counsel that the old men gave him and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him and stood before him. **9** And he said to them, "What do you advise that we answer this people who have said to me, 'Lighten the yoke that your father put on us?'" **10** And the young men who had grown up with him said to him, "Thus shall you speak to this people who said to you, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but you lighten it for us,' thus shall you say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's thighs. **11** And now, whereas my father laid on you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.'"

*When King Rehoboam was confronted with a problem, he had the chance to learn from the mistakes of his father before him. Does he learn from history? Why do you think it is so easy for us to repeat the mistakes of others? **Read on into 1 Kings 12** to see how it ends.*

How can you apply these Scriptures to your life?