**Security of the Believer**

one of the great doctrines of the Scripture, but Inadequate understanding of the doctrine and Neglect of the warnings of Scripture.

The results are tragic,

* Multitudes have not been genuinely converted to Christ, and it has given them a false sense of security and over-confidence.
* Multitudes think they are Christians and followers of Christ, but their lives do not match their profession.

Two of the greatest problems facing the church today are those of false security and over-confidence. From lack or unsound doctrine.

Scripture is clear

1 A person may think and say he is saved, but he can be wrong. Saying and thinking do not make a person safe and secure in Christ. Saying and thinking are not the reality or the evidence of salvation.

2 A person may be baptized and belong to a church, baptism and membership in a church do not make a person safe/secure in Christ.

3  A person may partake of the Lord's supper and think he is safe and secure in Christ, but partaking of the bread and wine do not make a person safe and secure in Christ. (sickly if not right)

4 A person may sense the presence of a *supernatural being*, or be greatly gifted and very active in the church, but it is not these things that make a person safe and secure in Christ.

This was the problem with the Corinthian believers. All of these things were true of them, and they felt safe and secure in Christ.

But they were wrong, and needed strongly warning lest they be doomed.

The Christian believer is in a race for the incorruptible crown 1Co9:24-27

The crown of life is not given to a person on a Golden or silver platter.

A person must *run* to win the race: run in discipline, denying himself and straining to control his life for Christ. If he does not so run, he will become a castaway (1 Cor. 9:27).

Col 1:29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Paul uses the nation of Israel as a prime example. greatly privileged by God in every way imaginable—and if any people ever felt safe and secure, Israel did. Yet, the people perished in the wilderness

1. 10:1-5 Israel— Faithfulness
   1. *All Israel* shared in the blessings and privileges of God.
   2. "all" is emphasized.
      1. *All* left Egypt (a type of the world)
      2. began the journey to the promised land (a type of heaven).
      3. *All* began to walk through the wilderness of the world with those who truly believed and trusted God; but, as became evident, all were not genuinely following
      4. They did not always truly believe and trust.

They felt safe and secure because they were journeying with those who were travelling to the promised land. But they were still in the wilderness, not in the promised land. And the wilderness included all kinds of dangers that had to be confronted and conquered or else they would be destroyed by the wilderness.

Israel had five remarkable blessings and privileges as they journeyed to the promised land.

God saw to it that the believers had what was necessary to journey through the wilderness of life.

1.  Israel had the cloud of God's presence and guidance

2.  Israel passed through the Red Sea.

a. Great deliverance of God from bondages

b. enslavements of Egypt which were a symbol of the world

3.  Israel was baptized into Moses and his leadership.

Moses stood as a type of Christ. God gave Israel the leader it needed to reach the promised land. Therefore, any person who followed Moses through the Red Sea and under the cloud was baptized, immersed, and given over to Moses and his mission. The person was proclaiming that he was a follower of Moses and his mission to reach the promised land.

4.  Israel partook of the food and water of God's provision. The word "spiritual" simply means that the food and water came from God. God provided for their needs; He took care of their day-to-day necessities

Exodus 16:4-8, 11-15; Exodus 17:6; Numbers 20:1

5.  Israel had the presence of Christ.

Christ is said to have been present with Israel.

The rock that provided water for Israel is said to have been Christ. Jesus Christ was the Source, the energy, the power, Person who

•  caused the rock to gush forth water.

•  caused the Red Sea to roll back.

•  caused the cloud to guide Israel and to rain manna or bread.

•  gave Moses, the promise of the promised land to the people.

Paul is proclaiming that Jesus Christ is the Son of Jehovah of the O T, the One who is called "the Rock" Deut. 32:4; 2 Samuel 22:2; Psalm 18:2; Psalm 18:30-31; Psalm 92:15.

It is He, our Lord and Savior, who was guiding and providing for Israel through its wilderness journey toward the promised land.

What happened to most of the believers of Israel is tragic. over six-hundred thousand men alone who broke away from the enslavements of Egypt and began the journey to the promised land. This means that including the women and children there were well over two million who stepped out to follow God to the promised land Ex 12:37; Nu 1:46

But the critical question is this:

How many remained faithful to God through the wilderness journey?

How many actually turned away from the fleshly desires aroused by the delicious foods, drinks, and bodily stimulations of Egypt and the world?

Heb 11:26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

How many actually disciplined their bodies, subjected their desires, and kept their eyes and hearts upon the promised land?

How many were faithful and steadfast, unmoveable and always abounding in the work of the Lord until they reached the promised land?

Over two million began the journey:

How many entered the promised land? two Caleb and Joshua.

Caleb and Joshua alone remained faithful to God.

Only two did not sin and displease God. Everyone else, over two to three million, perished in the wilderness. They were overthrown scattered as corpses all over the wilderness. Why?

Because they did not please God.

1. 10:6-10 **T**he warning to the church and to its believers.

What happened to Israel is a warning, an example to us.

We face danger, great danger:

What happened to the believers of Israel can happen to us.

It is critical, to know what caused the believers of Israel to be destroyed and what kept them from entering the promised land.

1. There was the sin of lust. We must not lust after evil things as they lusted.

They lusted and craved for the delicious foods of Egypt Nu 11:4.

* 1. As a result of the lust,
     1. a plague broke out among the people and killed many of them. so many died that the place became known as "the grave of greediness or of lust" ([Numbers 11:34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Nu+11%3A34).

Nu 11:34 And he called the name of that place Kibrothhattaavah: because there they buried the people that lusted. {Kibrothhattaavah: that is, The graves of lust}

The lust of those believers is a strong warning to us: we must "not lust after evil things [worldly pleasures]" (1 Cor. 10:6).

And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful" Mk 4:19.

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others" Eph. 2:3

That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God [1 Thes. 4:4-5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Th+4%3A4-5)

Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart 2 Tim. 2:22

Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death Jas 1:15

Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul 1 Peter 2:11

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world 1 John 2:15-16

1. There was the sin of idolatry. When Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving the law, the people became restless waiting for the Word of God. Therefore, they decided to go ahead and create their own form of worship Exodus 32:1

Ex 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

The people were actually dedicating their worship to God Himself.

And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD Exodus 32:5

The image of the golden calf was to help them picture and imagine God. They felt the need for some image to help them in their worship of Jehovah.

eating, drinking, and playing (immoral play). Such behavior often accompanies idolatry, the worship of a self-made god created by a person's own mind.

This was the danger the Corinthian believers faced. If they participated in the social functions of unbelievers, they might fall into sin. Whether the function was held in the temple or in the homes of the unbelievers, the likelihood was they would slip into the same idolatrous behavior of the unbelievers.

Little children, keep yourselves from idols 1 John 5:21

De 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another" Isaiah 42:8

1Co 10:1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.

9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

1Co 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

14 Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.

1Co 10:20 But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.