

OCTOBER 7, 2019

## I Corinthians 10

### THREE DIVISIONS OF CHAPTER 10:

- I. Warnings from Israel's History AND an Encouragement. *Verses 1-13*
- II. Idol Feasts and the Lord's Supper. *Verses 14-22*
- III. Some things in our Christian life are 'black and white'; but how do we handle the 'gray' areas? Our 'freedom' as believers balanced against our "responsibilities" as believers. *Verses 23-33*

#### I. WARNINGS: VERSES 1-10

- Cloud: *Exodus 13:21*
- Sea: *Exodus 14:21-22*
- Spiritual Food: *Exodus 16:4, 31*
- Spiritual Drink: *Exodus 17:6*

##### 1. Idolatry: Exodus 32 (excerpts)

Idolatry definition: An object of extreme devotion.

Others:

- Anything that becomes more important than God.
- Anything that disproportionately consumes our thoughts, actions and resources.
- Anything that takes God's place in giving us fulfillment, satisfaction, security or significance.

Consider: *Luke 8:14, I John 2:15-16, Rev. 2:4, II Timothy 3:1-5*

##### 2. Sexual Immorality: Numbers 25:1-3, 9

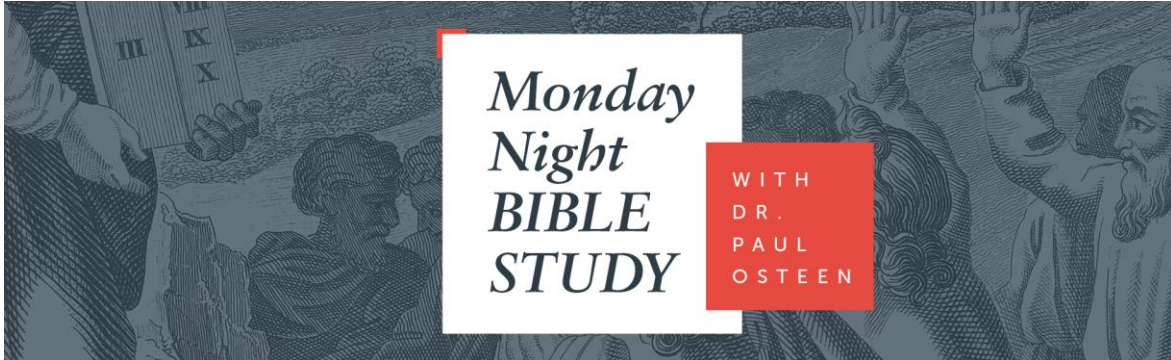
##### 3. Grumbling/Complaining: Numbers 21:4-6, Numbers 14:2-4, Numbers 14:29

We live under GRACE and not the LAW now; but,

*These things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. ...examples and warnings for us... I Cor. 10:6, 11*

#### I. ENCOURAGEMENT: Verses 11-13

*These are warning markers—DANGER!—in our history books, written down so that we don't repeat their mistakes. Our positions in the story are parallel—they at the beginning, we at the end—and we are just as capable of messing it up as they were. Don't be so naïve and self-*



OCTOBER 7, 2019

*confident. You're not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. Forget about self-confidence, it's useless. Cultivate God-confidence.*

*No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face, all you need to remember is that God will never let you down; He'll never let you be pushed past your limit; He'll always be there to help you come through it. I Cor. 10:11-13  
Message*

*He will also provide a way out...NIV*

## **II. Idol Feasts and the Lord's Supper: Verses 14-22**

### **III. Some things in our Christian life are 'black and white'; but how do we handle the 'gray' areas? Our 'freedom' as believers balanced against our 'responsibilities' as believers.**

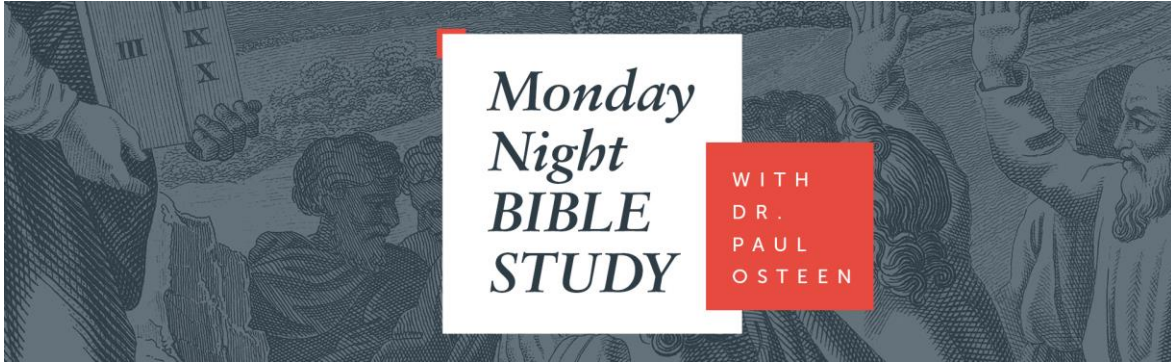
Our world and culture today are loaded with gray areas—things the Bible doesn't address specifically, or that grace has fulfilled with regard to the law's requirements so that we don't have to obey them anymore. But as you consider how you let that culture into your life—books, movies, music, websites, fashion, drinking, smoking, social media and so on—first consider Christ's overarching commandment: to love God with all you are and to love your neighbor. Jesus told us to love each other in the church especially well because it creates a strong witness to the outside world. Biblical principles should provide the basis of our behavior, but in areas of nonessential doctrine, let love guide you through the gray areas. "Whatever you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

*The Bible From 30,000 Feet, Pastor Skip Heitzig*

*Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. I Cor. 8:9*

Our freedom as followers of Jesus is tempered by our love and consideration for others.

There is a danger though, in making our spiritual preferences (what we do in gray areas) spiritual principles that others MUST follow.



OCTOBER 7, 2019

**Questions for personal application:**

Warnings and Encouragement

1. Has anything or anyone become an idol in my life?
2. Am I involved in sexual immorality in any way?
3. Do I grumble and complain?
4. In times of testing and temptation, am I looking for the 'way of escape' that God has provided? Or, am I ignoring it?

**Idol Feasts and the Lord's Supper:**

1. Am I trying to keep one foot in the world and one foot in the Kingdom?

**Gray Areas:**

Good thoughts to consider in thinking about 'gray areas':

1. Is \_\_\_\_\_ a sin?
2. Does \_\_\_\_\_ negatively affect my fellow believers (especially those who are new to the faith)?
3. Does \_\_\_\_\_ affect my testimony to non-believers?
4. Does \_\_\_\_\_ go against my conscience?
5. Have I asked more mature followers about \_\_\_\_\_?
6. Is \_\_\_\_\_ unwise?

**Also:**

7. Am I making what I do in gray areas a 'spiritual principle' that others must follow?

