

FOUR OVERLOOKED END TIME SIGNS

"If we would examine ourselves, we would not come under judgment." 1 Cor 11:31 CJB

An Admonition To The End Time Church

"Now these things befell them by way of a figure [as an example and warning to us]; they were written to admonish and fit us for right action by good instruction, we in whose days the ages have reached their climax (their consummation and concluding period). Therefore let anyone who thinks he stands [who feels sure that he has a steadfast mind and is standing firm], take heed lest he fall [into sin]." 1 Cor 10:11-12 AMP

The Apostle Paul outlines four conditions that should not be present in a believer's life when the ages reach their climax.

The Four Conditions: *"Neither be ye (1) idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit (2) fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us (3) tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither (4) murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."* 1 Cor 10:7-12

I. Beware Of Idolatry

"Neither be ye idolaters" (1 Cor 10:7). The verb translated "be ye" is gínesthe meaning, "keep becoming."

- A. This idolatry related to Corinthian believers conforming to the values and practices of their culture and society. Paul is referring to is a "hybrid" believe system that mixed their previous cultural practices with their Judaic Christian faith. Paul uses the illustration of the Israelites in the wilderness where they *"offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings: and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play"* Ex 32:1-9
- B. Paul explains cultural idolatry as mixing clean with unclean; *"No, what I am saying is that the things which pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice **not** to God but **to** demons; and I don't want you to become **sharers** of the demons! You can't drink **both** a cup of the Lord and a cup of demons, you can't partake in both a meal of the Lord and a meal of demons."* 1 Cor 10:20 CJB

The first of four end time signs is cultural compromise, which he calls Idolatry.

II. Beware Of Fornication

"Neither let us commit fornication" (1 Cor 10:8). The verb is in the present subjunctive which indicates continuous action. Be careful that you have not redefined sexual sin so broad that sexual behavior outside of the biblical context for marriage is now ok as long as it isn't intercourse.

A. Paul refers to the time of Israel's stay in Shittim where the men were enticed by the women of Moab into committing fornication with them and later idolatry as well.

"While the Israelites were camped at Acacia, some of the men had sex with Moabite women. 2 These women then invited the men to ceremonies where sacrifices were offered to their gods. The men ate the meat from the sacrifices and worshiped the Moabite gods." Num 25:1-2 CEV.

B. Being yoked with unbelievers and doing things that are not consistent with biblical values. *"Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers [do not make mismatched alliances with them or come under a different yoke with them, inconsistent with your faith]. For what partnership have right living and right standing with God with iniquity and lawlessness? Or how can light have fellowship with darkness? What harmony can there be between Christ and Belial [the devil]? Or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?" 2 Cor 6:14-15 AMP*

The second of four end time signs is sexual immorality and mismatched alliances.

III. Beware Of A Complaining Attitude

"Neither let us tempt Christ" (1 Cor 10:9). The verb "ekpeirázœmen" is also in the present subjunctive, warning us against constantly complaining.

A. When Israel blamed God and Moses for their poor diet in the wilderness, many were destroyed by "fiery serpents" (Num 21:4-6). Paul says these lessons are for our good as well. (1 Cor. 10:11)

B. Complaining, nitpicking and criticizing grieve the Holy Spirit. *"Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift. Don't grieve God. Don't break his heart. His Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for himself. Don't take such a gift for granted." Eph 4:29-30 MSG*

The third of four end time signs is a complaining attitude that grieves the Holy Spirit.

IV. Beware Of Dissatisfaction

"Neither murmur ye" (1 Cor 10:10). The verb is "goggúzete" in the present imperative meaning "to manifest sullen discontent."

A. Because of Israel's negative attitude toward God in the wilderness despite His provision for them, God allowed none of them to go into the Promised Land except Caleb, Joshua, and those under twenty years of age (Num 14:22-30).

The fourth end time sign is a spirit of dissatisfaction that always leads to murmuring accompanied by a spirit of complaining.

Paul warns us in the last days don't exhibit any of these Four End Time Behaviors!

- Idolatrous compromise
- Sexual Immorality
- A Complaining Attitude
- A Murmuring Spirit

Paul's admonition is; learn from others who were on their way to the Promised Land.

An Exhortation For 2011 And Beyond

*"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the **ends of the world are come.**" 1 Cor 10:7-12*



Blessings Pastor Bob Hill

RHM Copy Right Law Is, Please Copy It Right

You may subscribe or unsubscribe to RHM emails by indicating your choice at renewedhope@pacifier.com.