



Lessons from the Wilderness

1 Corinthians 9:24-10:13

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1 Corinthians 9:24-10:13

24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26 Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. 27 No, I strike a blow to my body

and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

1 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. 2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same spiritual food 4 and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.

5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. 6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things 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 got up to indulge in revelry.” 8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. 9 We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. 10 And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall! 13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what

you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

What then hindered them from entering the Promised Land (getting the Prize)?

“Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.”

“They craved what was evil.”

Idolatry

Exodus 32:6

The next day, the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they set down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.

“Worauf du nun dein Herz hängst und verlässest, das ist eigentlich dein Gott.”

Translation: “So what your heart is set on and you rely on, that is actually your god.”

- Martin Luther

Sexual Immorality

The Gift of Community

Grumbling

Numbers 21:5

They spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

In grumbling, you impugn God with wrong.

In right complaining, you express to God how rough it is, to live in this cruel and fallen world.