

Therefore

1 Cor 10:12 says *therefore*. Verse 11 says these things were written down as warnings and cautions for us. 1 Cor 10:10 says that they were excluded from the land of promise (Kingdom of God) because of these things that were in them — things that caused upheavals and unrest, disorder, disruption, even overthrow, revolution, and turmoil. These are things that cannot be tolerated in the New Covenant people of God (1 Cor 1:10,13; 3:1-3; 1 Tim 2:8). There can be no dissension between brothers. Mt 18:15 requires immediate healing salve, oil, ointment for the person's eyes, so he can see his contentious strife, causing division — how he speaks, tearing down his brothers, etc.

Therefore is there for the purpose of keeping any one of us from being destroyed by the same kind of indifference (1 Cor 10:6-7) and lack of zeal for God's house (Mt 12:30; 2 Pet 2:1; 3:14). The first church found themselves lapsing from their steadfastness (2 Pet 3:17). They were being led away by the errors of careless and reckless people (Mt 12:30). The first church knew these things beforehand. They were warned, "Be on your guard; be alert against being led away." What does *led* mean? (2 Pet 3:17; 2 Tim 2:26). Someone leads, shows the way, brings you along, being persuasive in word or action — either the evil one through spirits, or spirits in those who are able to lead or persuade, perverting the gift of leadership for their own ends.

So we see Christianity today — Satan is her Head. Rev 18:2-5,23 — Her job is completed. Now he will destroy her through the sovereignty of God's predetermined will, so the beast can emerge fully and completely — the incarnation of Satan on earth (Rev 17:15-18).

The people living in this generation are or could be the most blessed and privileged people who have ever lived, being thoroughly tested and tried, to choose the right over the wrong and be rewarded in the nations, as Mt 25:41 says, because of the ministry of the Twelve Tribes, plus the Male Child being sent out (Mt 25:34; Rev 14:6-11). Verse 12 — The Male Child will be mistreated and killed. The woman is in the wilderness at that time (Rev 12). All these things, which are God's predetermined will and prophecy, depend upon a people who also are blessed and privileged more than all the saints of old, and far above all others who live on the earth. We are chosen to be those people in 1 Cor 10:11 (2 Pet 2 and 3).

The first church did not heed, did not listen to their forerunners, so they fell like Israel of old. 1 Cor 10:21 is a *warning* — since it was impossible to drink from two cups, the church fell like Israel of old, and Babylon of old fell twice. 1 Cor 10:11 says in Hebrew, "*Ha charit ha yamim*" — the end of days, the last times. It is left to us, another people to be raised up (Dan 2:44).

Who is able to take heed today? The prophets? (2 Cor 11:3,4,13-15). Prophets led them to ruin as you can see today. But one does not have to be a prophet. It could be especially the older leading youth and children who influence a whole generation which could grow up to lead a rebellion.

We can read about the church in the first century, but you cannot see it today. You can read about the foundation, but there were none to build upon it (Eph 2:20; 1 Cor 3:10). There is only a false messiah, propagated by the false apostles and prophets who laid a false foundation (Mt 7:21-26).

Paul took the Old Covenant experience and the fall of Israel and applied it to the way the church would also fall. The principle of 1 Cor 10:12 applied to every single individual until the whole "batch" was leavened (1 Cor 5:7). The church thought they were "flying high", so to speak (Rev 3:1-5). But in fact they were dead (Rev 3:14-16). They were lukewarm, had lost their first zeal. Apathy masqueraded as maturity. The clergy-laity system was fast approaching — a system God detests and which has permeated the whole loaf. There are Bible schools to make false prophets out those who will graduate to conquer the people who sit in pews and listen to them and then file out, saying, "That was a good sermon," and, "I got something out of it that will help me on my job this week at IBM." They all wear little ties to show that the system has choked them into submission — it is their status symbol.

1 Cor 10:12 — Paul warned, "So when you are thinking you are making it just fine..*wake up!*" (Rev 3:2-3). Or else, *Maranatha!* —He would come and remove His lamp stand from amongst them, unless they could repent (Rev 3:6).

The whole first church was tolerating things that would cause all their deaths (1 Jn 5:16), that is, all the churches except one... but soon enough they too were apostate — without remedy. Rev 2:20 — The woman declares that she is a prophetess and misleads His servants by her teaching.

1 Cor 10:12 — When we need no grace, and we need no encouragement... we are all set... we are going down to death. When you notice that you don't have to go to the throne of grace much or any longer, you are already in the flesh, and what you say, regardless of how refined it seems, does not build up the Body, but will destroy. The flesh profits nothing.

Take heed lest you fall in like manner as 1 Cor 10:1-12; 2 Pet 3; etc. Jn 15:5 —The Son of God told His Apostles this — how much less can we do without Him, without His grace? That grace is the Vine's nourishment.