

New Morning Magical – 8-14-20

Written for our admonition

Let's begin today in 1 Corinthians chapter 10. Now, a lot of what I'm about to read is the Apostle Paul's explanation, in the first 22 verses, of the precedents, patterns, and principles from the Old Testament that Paul used to educate the Corinthian ecclesia, and which can benefit us today.

Beginning in Chapter 10, verse 1

1 For I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, that our fathers all were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,

"Our fathers" refers to Paul's Hebrew ancestors. This is the history of all Hebrews. The sea is the Red Sea that was parted for the children of Israel who came out of Egypt. The cloud is what hovered over the Israelites during the day as they trekked toward the Promised Land.

2 and all are baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

The word, baptism, here refers to the following of Moses and his directions throughout Israel's journey from Egypt to the borders of the Promised Land. The Law of Moses is included in this figurative baptism.

3 and all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank of the spiritual Rock which followed. Now the Rock was Christ.

So much of Israel's journey, and even Moses himself, was a prophetic example – a type and shadow – of events to come thousands of years later, including Christ Himself.

5 But not in the majority of them does God delight, for they were strewn along in the wilderness.

Paul is referring here to the nearly 1 million Israelites who got to the border of the Promised Land and rejected it. Only Joshua, Caleb, and the children of those who left Egypt survived to enter the Promised Land. The entire first generation, who saw the Red Sea parted; who drank from water coming out of the rock; who found manna on the ground every morning during

their journey; and who survived the plagues that they brought on themselves by disrespecting either the Father or His anointed, Moses, who was Himself a type of Christ.

6 Now these things became types of us ***[in other words, examples for us to learn from]***, for us not to be lusters after evil things,

7 according as they also lust. Nor yet be becoming idolaters, according as some of them, even as it is written, "Seated are the people to eat and drink, and they rise to sport."

8 Nor yet may we be committing prostitution, according as some of them commit prostitution, and fall in one day twenty-three thousand.

Paul is talking about the prostitution committed by the men of Israel with the daughters of Moab in Numbers 25, which actually killed 24,000 – Paul under-remembered the total.

9 Nor yet may we be putting the Lord on trial, according as some of them put Him on trial, and perished by serpents. ***[That's a great story in Numbers 21]***

10 Nor yet be murmuring even as some of them murmur, and perished by the exterminator.

The exterminator is the same messenger of death that visited the firstborn children of Egypt, and who passed over the houses of Israelites who had sprinkled their doorposts with the blood of the lambs they had eaten that night.

11 Now all this befalls them typically. Yet it was written for our admonition, to whom the consummations of the eons have attained.

Did you hear that? *"It was written for our admonition."* That's a pretty big statement Paul is making, that the record of these Old Testament events – and many more, no doubt – was for our admonition; to instruct us; to warn us; to prevent us from repeating the same mistakes, thousands of years down the road!

Now what in the world does that last phrase mean, *"to whom the consummations of the eons have attained"*? Well, if he had written eon – singular – he would have been referring to the Lord's return. Instead he wrote EONS – plural – which has to go all the way to the end of the whole eonian story, which he paints briefly in 1 Corinthians 15:

22 For even as, in Adam, all are dying, thus also, in Christ, shall all be vivified ***[made alive]***.

23 Yet each in his own class: the Firstfruit, Christ; thereupon those who are Christ's in His

presence;

24 thereafter the consummation, whenever He may be giving up the kingdom to His God and Father, whenever He should be nullifying all sovereignty and all authority and power.

Now let's go back to 1 Corinthians 10:

12 So that, let him who is supposing he stands beware that he should not be falling.

Don't take anything to yourself; don't get fooled into thinking that you've arrived into some state of holiness. You'll get brought up short pretty quickly. In other words, stay humble and don't think more of yourself than you should.

13 No trial has taken you except what is human. Now, faithful is God, Who will not be leaving you to be tried above what you are able, but, together with the trial, will be making the sequel also, to enable you to undergo it.

We are going to undergo trials in this eon; no one escapes them. The father sets limits on trials, however, and Paul says, He won't take you over the edge of what you can handle; He may take you TO the edge, by the way, way beyond your comfort zone, but He also provides a sequel; that is, the "what's next," sometimes called "the way of escape" that actually enables you to undergo the trial. So, what's the purpose of a trial? Well, that's a whole study in itself, but let me say quickly here that trials grow you up into someone to whom the Father can relate and someone who can relate to Him.

Jump down now to verse 20:

20 But that that which the nations are sacrificing, they are sacrificing to demons and not to God. Now I do not want you to become participants with the demons.

21 You can not drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You can not be partaking of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

22 Or are we provoking the Lord to jealousy? Not stronger than He are we!

Two important points here:

- First, demons and the demonic realm has been with us, probably since Adam – maybe even before that – and it is with us today. When I talk about there being no devil, or no being named Satan, I have never said that demons don't exist; that would be foolish. Yeshua encountered demons several times during His ministry. In verses 20 and 21 that we just read, Paul is dealing with, again, former pagans, who had a whole host of gods to

whom they sacrificed. He was letting them know that they couldn't have Christ and demon worship at the same time – those are mutually exclusive and antagonistic.

- Second, we see a picture – maybe the only picture I can think of – of a Jealous Yeshua. Jealous of what? Well, how about looking at the excruciating sacrifice He made for the salvation of all mankind, and then to have that minimized, disrespected and dishonored by cavorting with and worshipping demons. I think His patience with people is jaw-dropping! Don't you agree?

Chapter 11 of 1 Corinthians is again all about behavior, particularly how men and women should be dressed and behave in the assembly. The only statement that I want to share with you is the first verse of Chapter 11:

1 Become imitators of me, according as I also am of Christ.

Paul doesn't lack for boldness, does he? He isn't falsely modest, is he? But he does not make this statement out of pride. He knew that he was a worthy example; he is still a role model for all of us, BECAUSE of how he follows Christ!

Let's close this today with the end of Chapter 12:

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members of a part,

Get this: Christ not only lives in you, He lives *THROUGH YOU*. You are a member of His body. Now, this next verse sets out the order of those whom the Father calls to serve the body of Christ.

28 whom also God, indeed, placed in the ecclesia, first, apostles, second, prophets, third, teachers, thereupon powers [*the working of miracles*], thereupon graces of healing, supports, pilotage [*administration or guidance*], species of languages [*tongues*].

29 Not all are apostles. Not all are prophets. Not all are teachers. Not all have powers.

30 Not all have the graces of healing. Not all are speaking languages. Not all are interpreting.

31 Yet be zealous for the greater graces. And still I am showing you a path, suited to transcendence.

ESV: *"And I will show you a still more excellent way."*

The list that Paul just gave is another way that you can know how your own church is functioning, if you have one. Do they provide a full ministry to build you up? Where are the

“apostles, prophets, teachers, powers, graces of healing, supports, pilotage [*administration or guidance*], or species of languages [*tongues*]”? If these are not present – all of them – how can there be genuine shepherding into all that the Father has for you? How will you learn and grow, beyond just the weekly sermon?

I'll leave it there for today and until next time,
May Yahweh bless you and keep you;
May Yahweh light up His face toward you
and be gracious to you;
May Yahweh lift His face to you
and appoint peace for you.

AMEN