

A GLORIOUS MESS

LESSONS FROM THE CHURCH AT CORINTH

Temptation Island — 1 Corinthians 10a

A GLORIOUS MESS, Act 2: Part 7

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A GLORIOUS MESS — God is doing something GLORIOUS, but the *entrenched* MESS threatens to *derail*, even *destroy* on the way.

THE ISLAND — How to Vote Yourself Off

1 Corinthians 10:1–14

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

- ▶ What you don't *know CAN and WILL hurt you!*

² ...and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; ³ and all ate the same spiritual food; ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness.

REALITY CHECK

- ✓ Most people *didn't make it*.
- ✓ You can't *coast or be casual*.

PATTERNS — We've seen this movie before...

⁶ Now these things happened as examples [tu/poi – examples, types, patterns] for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved.

- ▶ **DESIRE** — You got to *think well about desire*.

⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, "THE PEOPLE SAT DOWN TO EAT AND DRINK, AND STOOD UP TO PLAY."

- ▶ Temptation is always about **GOD** — bring him back into the foreground.

⁸ Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.

- ▶ Your body (specifically sexuality) *speaks*: It must say *true things*.

⁹ Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents.

- ▶ Try the Lord: See how far one can go — we're in trouble when we treat God as a "thing".

¹⁰ Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

- ▶ Negativity: Most temptation is about *legit needs* out of *place* and *disordered*.

¹² Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it. ¹⁴ Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

1. Watch out — *sucker punching* is the *rule*, not the *exception*.
2. Tell yourself: "*There is nothing unique here*."
3. Think "*escape*" not "*conquer*".

TURN FROM AND TO — We *needed, need and will need* the one true God.