

**February 14, 2021**  
**I Corinthians 10:1-13**  
**Taking Aim**

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

In this passage the apostle Paul is urging the church to acquire wisdom. In this instance the way prescribed is to learn from the mistakes of others, namely, the nation of Israel. In the first five verses the advisement is to **avert dangers**. To avert something is to “prevent or ward off an undesirable occurrence.” Paul reminds them that because of God’s displeasure of Israel during the wilderness wandering most of them died.

In verses six through ten, the teaching at hand is, **acknowledge warnings**. As sin in one’s life is revealed it is better to respond positively to the “shot over the bow” than to take a direct hit. This is the mercy of God at work, *if* one adheres to the warning. The warnings were to **avoid**: evil cravings, idolatry, trying God, and get this, avoid grumbling!

Finally in verses eleven through thirteen Paul directs the reader’s attention to making **accurate assessments**. Going forward in one’s Christian life one must take heed lest he fall, understand that temptation comes, it comes to everyone. Be reminded that God will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can handle without making a way of escape. It is by His strength that believers endure/escape whatever temptation may come. How can I do this in my life? Stay tuned!

**APPLICATION:**

In our passage today God has given us a history lesson by which we can learn from the mistakes of others, thereby acquiring wisdom to help us in everyday life. God provided examples of His greatness and glory as He worked among His people Israel. In spite of this, through unbelief most of them died. There is a lesson to be learned here. The majority was dead wrong, Joshua and Caleb got it right, their reliance was on God. Sometimes if you take a stand for biblical truth you just may find yourself standing alone. Also, God has guaranteed ways of escape in times of temptation, emphasis on “escape.” This ends with a word to us to have a spiritually minded plan in place as we go through life. Study to know God’s Word, trust in Him at all times, and take aim at each problem with biblical perspective in mind at all times.

Think on this biblical instruction as you navigating the Christian life, **James 4:7-10** (NASB)  
“7 Submit therefore to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come close to God and He will come close to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be miserable, and mourn, and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning, and your joy into gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.”