



Sermon Outlines by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

Sins That Stop a Church 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I. Introduction:

1. **Israel** was the church (Greek, *ecclesia*) in the wilderness **Acts 7:38**;
Philippians 3:3
2. They are our "examples" (Greek, *tupos*) **1 Corinthians 10:6, 11** NOT to follow; but we also have good ones **Philippians 3:17**; **1 Peter 5:3**;
1 Timothy 4:12; **Titus 2:7**
3. Unbelief is behind all of these sins in the text **CF Hebrews 3:7-19**
4. If we refuse to learn their lesson, the church of Christ will also be stopped.

II. Discussion: Advantages of:

A. *The Israelites had God's:*

1. Guidance **1 Corinthians 10:1**
2. Deliverance **1 Corinthians 10:1, 2**
3. Leadership **1 Corinthians 10:2**
4. Diet **1 Corinthians 10:3-4**
 - a) Manna Exodus 16 (**CF John 6:31-35**)
 - b) Water of life Exodus 17 (**Cf John 4:10, 13-14**)

B. *The church of Christ has God's:*

1. Word **1 Corinthians 9:16**

2. Salvation **Mark 16:15, 16; Acts 2:47**
3. Elders **Acts 20:28**
4. Food **John 6:63; Matthew 5:6**

III. Actions of:

A. **Lust** (Greek, *epithumatas* - a craver, one who longs for) **1 Corinthians 10:6**

1. Israelites were killed by unbridled desire **Numbers 11:4-6**
2. **CF epithumia**- **James 1:14; 1 Thessalonians 4:5; 2 Timothy 2:22**
3. This can lead one to seek another:
 - a) gospel **Galatians 1:6;**
 - b) Christ **2 Peter 2:1;**
 - c) church **Colossians 1:18**

B. **Idolatry** (Greek, *eidololatrás* - worshiper idolon) **1 Corinthians 10:7**

1. Israelites had left the living God for idols **Acts 7:41**
2. Typical of the world in its unrighteousness **1 Corinthians 5:9-11;**
but should never be named (atypical) among Christians
1 Corinthians 6:9-11
3. The church of Christ should NEVER consider anything idolatrous above God **1 Corinthians 10:19; 12:2**
4. The church can lapse from worship **in** to worship **of** the building; or make idols of: money, comfort, time, activities, persons.

C. **Fornication** (Greek, *porneuo* - to give one's self to unlawful sexual intercourse)

1. **1 Corinthians 10:8; Exodus 32:1-10 (v. 6); Numbers 22-25:1**

2. This includes sexual liaisons with: streetwalkers, dates, dancing partners, someone else's spouse **1 Corinthians 6:18**
3. Metaphorically, it applies to, and is associated with, worship of idols **Psalms 73:27**
4. Thus, it certainly includes all who do not honor God's Law of marriage **Matthew 19:3-4; Genesis 2:24**

D. Tempt Christ (Greek, *ekpeiradzo* - to prove, or test thoroughly)
1 Corinthians 10:9

1. It is always forbidden to challenge:
 - a) God's Providence at Massah **Exodus 17:1-7; Deuteronomy 6:16**
 - b) Jesus' Person in temptation **Matthew 4:7** quotes **Deuteronomy 6:16**
 - c) Holy Spirit's Principles in Jesus' doctrine **Luke 10:25**
 - (1) Jesus endorsed what the Bible says **Luke 10:26-28**
 - (2) Jesus is "the truth" **John 8:31-32; 14:6** and never wrong
2. Wilderness incident **Numbers 21:4-9** illustrates Christ's cross **John 3:14-15**
3. Incessant clamor for God to "prove" Himself is proof of unbelief and is damnable:
 - a) Jews' sought more miracles, but were told to wait for Christ's resurrection **Matthew 12:38-40**; so the Bible record of God's miracles should be sufficient for anyone living today **John 20:30-31**
 - b) Jews' insatiable unbelief at Jesus' cross went unheeded **Matthew 27:42**, so, too, today. If a person cannot be convinced to believe in Jesus as the Christ the Son of God, by the Bible's accounts of miracles, then **NO OTHER MIRACULOUS SIGN SHOULD BE SOUGHT OR WILL BE GIVEN!**

E. **Murmurers (Greek *gongudzo* - mutter, grumble, say anything in a low tone, with no intention of it being discussed or settled by those involved) 1 Corinthians 10:10**

1. Wilderness church ruined forward progress **Numbers 11:1; 12:1**

a) This only expresses dissatisfaction with God's Way, and He answered with:

(1) Graves for the greedy **Numbers 11:1, 34**

(2) Leprosy for Miriam **Numbers 12:1, 9-15**

b) Whining in such a foolish, childish, petty, injurious, slanderous way, fosters rebellion and will NOT be tolerated by God NOR permitted in the Promised Land **Hebrews 3:16-19**

c) This wore down Moses, the humblest man on earth
Numbers 12:3; 20:7-13

2. Jesus Christ was subjected to it **John 6:41-43, 61; 7:10-13, 32; Luke 15:2; 19:7**

3. The church of Christ is victimized by it, also. (Greek, *gongusmos*)

a) It halted the good work of benevolence in Jerusalem **Acts 6:1**

b) It can halt the good work of hospitality **1 Peter 4:9; Hebrews 13:2**

c) It can halt all other good works **Philippians 2:14**

d) Not even "groaning" (Greek, *stenadzo*) is allowed **James 5:9**

IV. Conclusion:

1. Can we feel secure while these sins are among us?

1 Corinthians 10:12

2. Should we feel hopeless when confronted with these sins?

1 Corinthians 10:13

3. Should we feel afraid – Then Repent NOW **Acts 17:30** or else face God's Judgment against all those who are guilty.

4. Sinners will NOT prevail, but can hinder the church's progress. Sinners God will Judge.

5. **God will add the obedient to His church (Acts 2:38, 41, 47), and remove the disobedient from His church on the Judgment Day (Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43)**