

SCCC – THE UNAVOIDABLE TESTS

S - Scriptures

“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.” I Corinthians 10: 13

C – Consideration

Paul is warning the church against sinful behaviors, bringing to their attention the evil actions of Israel after they left Egypt. First, he made a parallel between them and the church, “They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.” He pictured the crossing of the sea as their baptism, and the very presence of Jesus nourishing them spiritually. Then, he pointed out to the church the events that occurred during their journey in the desert and the consequences of it, emphasizing twice the word “example”, “Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel. These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come.” And, in conclusion, Paul stated that a Christian would not need to be defeated in temptation, explaining God’s care for His children.

C – Commitment

The Apostle summarized his admonitions reminding Jesus’ followers that we will be tempted in our journey as Israel was tested. They fell into idolatry, sexual immorality, rebellion, and perhaps other sinful behaviors, and so could we. However, according to the Scriptures, when temptation comes, God will make sure that I could bear the load and provide a way out. I know that temptations are inevitable, but I am not alone during these tests. The Lord knows my strength and will provide deliverance; therefore I can live in hope and victory, glorying my God, who is looking after me.

C – Call

My God, thanks for reminding me that holiness pleases You, while sin displeases You. Forgive me when I was dragged away by my own evil desires that gave birth to sin. Help me to keep in my heart Your blessing words, when temptation comes, jogging my memory that You have provided the power to resist it and a way out to escape from it. You are my faithful Heavenly Father, in Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.