

“Yet God was not pleased with most of them, and their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.”

1 Corinthians 10:5 NLT

## lectio // 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Paul often gives a history lesson and a spiritual application that he is well qualified to present. Here he summarizes - “All of them...” were guided by a cloud, walked through the sea, were baptized as followers of Moses, ate the same spiritual food, drank the same spiritual water. Read it with me - ALL OF THEM. So, they were together and experienced the same things. Yet, Paul reminds us, God was NOT pleased with them. Why? Well, you’d have to read beyond verse 5 to get the punch-in-the-gut-line. Was it a lack of faith? Hmm, maybe. Then again, maybe all sin is a lack of faith. Paul says it was their “craving for evil” and their “grumbling.” Humans are humans, then and now. Even in modern times we struggle with faith, but even more, we CRAVE evil and COMPLAIN when we don’t get what we want, when we want it. Then we take out the blame flame and roast everyone around us for not getting us what we want. What a warning! What a tough reminder that some things never change. Moses had to deal with the Israelites and Paul had to deal with all of greeks (gentile). We have to get our sin under Christ’s control, not ours.

## oratio

Dad,

In the middle of his virus crisis, this Coronapocalypse, I see our humanity being fearful, panicked, selfish and scared. I also see another opportunity for believers to behave different. Can we (followers of Christ) rise above our fears and self preservations to be available and present to folks who are legitimately afraid. Can we (I) share? Can I risk prayer? Can I be loving and kind and patient when there is so much chaos and uncertainty. I believe you have asked me to be these things all along and I shouldn’t waiver from those behaviors now that it’s more risky, more difficult.

Jesus was calm and commanding in the most fearful times, help me be the same.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root