

Things In Common

1 Cor. 10:13

1 Corinthians 10:13 - 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.

Introduction:

- A. We often say certain people have things in common. It may be they like the same movies or the same sports teams, etc. We also think of families as having things in common. After they share the same house, the same name, the same ancestry, etc.
- B. Many times, we speak of those we know as having a common interest in something with us. Once again, we are speaking of their likes or dislikes being the same as ours.
- C. The Bible speaks of having things in common also and for just a few minutes, we want to consider some of them.

I. A Common Temptation

- A. All are tempted the same way

- 1. Only three ways sin enters life - 1 Jn 2:15

1 John 2:15 - Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

- 2. Jesus faced all - Matt 4:1-11; Heb 4:15

Matthew 4:1-11 - Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'" Then the devil *took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and 'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'" Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'" Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'" Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.

Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

- a. "Hid the word in his heart" and did not sin!
 - b. Can appreciate Jesus tempted in all points

- B. The temptation of woman in the garden - Gen 3:6

Genesis 3:6 - When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

- 1. She saw the fruit, good for food--lust of flesh
 - 2. Pleasant to the eyes--lust of the eyes
 - 3. To make one wise--pride of life

- C. There's one thing the Devil doesn't like - Jas 4:7-8

James 4:7-8 - Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

II. *A Common Salvation -Jude 3*

[But how is it that salvation is common to men?]

A. All are invited to enjoy it - Mk 16:15-16

Mark 16:15-16 - And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

1. This gospel extends an invitation that is worldwide in its scope - Matt 11:28

Matthew 11:28 - "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

2. EVERY creature - ALL nations - Rev. 22:17

Revelation 22:17 - The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

B. All must do the same thing to enjoy it

1. Preachers may make you think there are many ways

2. Every case of conversion in the book of Acts—they all did the very same thing

a. They **Heard** the word

b. They **Believed** the word

c. They **Obeded** the word.

1) Now some had already done some things, others had already done others, so they were told different things

a) Believers asked--told "repent and be baptized" - Acts 2:38

Acts 2:38 - Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

b) A man who repented asked--told to confess and be baptized - Acts 8:36-39

Acts 8:36-39 - As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

c) An unbeliever asked--told to believe first, then told the other things - Acts 16:30

Acts 16:30 - and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

2) But all obeyed the same plan

a) This same plan of salvation is available now

b) Right now, you are hearing the gospel--hearing can and will produce faith in your heart

3) You likewise must do the same thing they did to be saved.

III. *A Common Faith*

A. Listening to men, we may get the idea that there are many faiths acceptable to God.

B. Last count I had was over 2500 different "faiths" in our country

C. Paul wrote of the common faith - Tit 1:4

Titus 1:4 - To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

1. What is there about this faith that makes it common?

2. There is just one of them

a. "Contend for the faith" - Jude 3

Jude 3 - Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

b. One faith - Eph 4:1-6

Ephesians 4:1-6 - Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the

calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

3. If people are telling you about many faiths, they must be reading the wrong book.

a. We must understand the way "FAITH" is used in the Bible...

1) Can mean "to believe in" - Heb 11:6

Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

2) Can mean "the faith" - Gal 1:23

Galatians 1:23 - but only, they kept hearing, "He who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith which he once tried to destroy."

3) What did Paul preach? - 1 Cor. 15:2 (The GOSPEL)

1 Corinthians 15:2 - by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

a) The Gospel is used interchangeably here with the Faith

b) Just one gospel system, just one faith

b. Whatever the Bible says to me it says to you and vice versa

IV. A Common Church

A. To hear people preaching today, you would think you'd find a different church on every page of the New Testament!

B. But there was just one church in the Bible - Matt 16:18; Eph 4:4; 1 Cor 12:13; 12:20; Col 1:24

Matthew 16:18 - "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

Ephesians 4:4 - There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

1 Corinthians 12:13 - For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:20 - But now there are many members, but one body.

Colossians 1:24 - Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions.

1. Churches of Christ - Rom 16:16

Romans 16:16 - Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

2. They all were part of a common church

3. All were the same kind of church

V. A Common Savior

A. In the mind of some, there may be many saviors, many mediators

1. Jesus is the savior - Lk 2:11

Luke 2:11 - for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

a. Save his people from their sins - Matt 1:21

Matthew 1:21 - "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

b. Came to save sinners - 1 Tim 1:15

1 Timothy 1:15 - It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.

2. Author of eternal salvation to all that obey Him - Heb 5:8-9

Hebrews 5:8-9 - Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,
B. Christ gave himself for the one church

VI. A *Common Death* (Ready or not, it's coming!)

A. Many passages show this - Num 16:29; Jas 2:24-26; Eccl 12:7; Heb 9:27; 1 Cor. 15:22; Eccl 9:5; Job 14:1-2, 7:6

Numbers 16:29 - "If these men die the death of all men or if they suffer the fate of all men, then the LORD has not sent me.

James 2:24-26 - You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone. In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 - then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

Hebrews 9:27 - And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,

1 Corinthians 15:22 - For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

Ecclesiastes 9:5 - For the living know they will die; but the dead do not know anything, nor have they any longer a reward, for their memory is forgotten.

Job 14:1-2 - "Man, who is born of woman, Is short-lived and full of turmoil. 2 "Like a flower he comes forth and withers. He also flees like a shadow and does not remain.

Job 7:6 - "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, And come to an end without hope.

B. Life moves swiftly toward end

1. Older people often relate it seems like only yesterday

2. Life is like the shuttle moving in a loom at cotton mill; so quickly it cannot be seen. It can be HEARD--it makes a lot of noise.

VII. A *Common Resurrection*

A. All will be raised at the same time - Jn 5:28-29; 1 Thess. 4:17

John 5:28-29 - "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 - Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

B. They believed there shall be a resurrection from the dead - Acts 24:15

Acts 24:15 - having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.

VIII. A *Common Judgment*

A. All people will be there - 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom 14:12

2 Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Romans 14:12 - So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

B. All will be judged by the same judge - Jn 5:22; Rom 2:16

John 5:22 - "For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,

Romans 2:16 - on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

C. All judged by the same standard - Jn 12:48; Rom 2:16; Rev 20:12-16

John 12:48 - "He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.

Romans 2:16 - on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

Revelation 20:11-15 - Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

1. If we aren't ready to face the books then, what will we do?

2. Will have to say, "I had an opportunity to believe it and obey it once and I missed it.

Conclusion:

A. We've looked at some things that are common to man

B. Why don't you prepare for the common judgment?