



## MESSAGE/SERIES:

Restoration Series\_“The Verdict”

**DATE:** October 27, 2019

## SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

**1 Corinthians 6:1-11, Matthew 18:15-17, Matthew 19:28, 1 Corinthians 5:12, 1 Corinthians 15:34, Matthew 5:39-40, 1 Thessalonians 4:6, Hebrews 12:14, Titus 3:3-5, Romans 8:2, 30**

## OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[1 Corinthians 6:1-11]

*“When one of you has a **grievance** against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints? <sup>2</sup> Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, **are you incompetent to try trivial cases?** <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life! <sup>4</sup> So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church? <sup>5</sup> I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, <sup>6</sup> but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers? <sup>7</sup> **To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you.** Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? <sup>8</sup> But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!*

<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor

*swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Co 6:1–11.*

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## **BACKGROUND & OTHER STUDY HELPS:**

**[Culture in Corinth]** 6:1. “Like modern North American society, Roman society was extremely litigious. Cases began to be heard at dawn and sometimes could be argued as late as sunset. Judges were always chosen from among the well-to-do, and most legal disputes revolved around money.”

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), 1 Co 6:1.

**[Upper and Lower Classes in Corinth]** “Members of the upper class received better treatment in the law courts; indeed, this preference was written into penalties prescribed in the laws. Further, social inferiors could not sue members of the upper class. But for Paul, even the lowliest believers are equipped to judge cases.”

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), 1 Co 6:2.

**[Philosophers in Corinth]** “Many philosophers who believed that property did not matter could advocate ignoring offenses rather than going to court. Paul prefers the Jewish method of settling disputes within the community, which serves both justice and the community’s witness to the outside world.”

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), 1 Co 6:7–8.

**[Explanation of v9-10]** “Both Jewish and pagan “vice lists” often defined the “unrighteous”; Paul follows this practice. “Do not be deceived” appears in ancient moral exhortation and is common in the New Testament. Scholars have disputed the meaning of the term translated “homosexuals” (NASB), but it seems to mean those who engage in homosexual acts, which were a common feature of Greek male life in antiquity.

Like the rabbis, Paul engages in rhetorical damnation: even though in practice he has expelled from fellowship only the most extreme offender (5:1–5), those who continue in the lifestyles he mentions here (whether premarital sex or materialism) will not make it into the kingdom.”

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), 1 Co 6:9–10.

## **OUTLINE:**

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### **Introduction:**

The world is watching ever so closely to these people who call themselves Christians and the Church. They watch how we act towards one another. They listen to how we talk to one another...

Can you imagine the scene as two Christians get into an argument over some possession or right that they perceive to have as citizens of this world so they take one another to court and sue the pants off of their brother... and the world looks in and says yep that's exactly what I would have done too!

The facts are... **We want to defend our stuff and our ego more than we want to glorify God...** *and we turn to the world to back us up!*

**Proposition:** Because we belong to the Lord we must not be judged by anyone other than by God's jury...

## **I. BECAUSE WE BELONG TO GOD, WE MUST NOT BE JUDGED BY THE WORLD'S COURT *as they are unqualified in eternal matters***

The bible says **they are unrighteous before the Lord...** many of those who oversee the cases in court have not been transformed by the word and spirit of God!

It doesn't mean there are not Christian lawyers or Christian judges that God has placed in those key roles...

But the world system is not set up to stand on Biblical standards and God's standards are our guide...

An unsaved lawyer and jury will not have your christian witness and the unity of the body of Christ in mind, but rather winning the case at all cost

How many christian friendships and christian families have been destroyed through a winner takes all strategy?

Should the world's courts be our first step Church?

=(No) The Church should Judge/or mediate in legal disputes **in the present...** (in this already & not yet kingdom where Christ already reigns in the hearts of believers)

Paul makes it clear that Believers need to get used to ruling and reigning with Christ now (in this already & not yet kingdom where Christ already reigns in the hearts of believers)

- As the church will rule and reign with Christ in eternity... **in the future**

**1 Corinthians 6:2 ESV:** Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases?

**1 Corinthians 6:3 ESV:** Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!

- If we are judging through all eternity with Christ are we "Incompetent" or **unqualified or unworthy now?**

**When Paul is talking about judging trivial cases or these very small cases** he is speaking to the comparison of Christians ruling with Christ through all eternity... (Christians need to turn to the church/the Christians to mediate in these matters)

- *Christians need to be there for one another...* **tearing apart the arguments that separate God's people**

**2 Corinthians 10:4–5 ESV:** For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty

opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

=If our weaponry is divine, why do we turn to the world for answers?

- *Our first Step should be **This word** (the Bible) will destroy the things that hold you captive in this life*
- *Our first Step Should Prayer and seeking the Holy Spirit*
- *Our next steps need to be to seek counsel from believers!*

**1 Corinthians 6:4 ESV:** So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church?

- No standing in the church indicates Paul is speaking to God's appointment of church/body matters...
- How many issues can be solved if we will just turn to the word?
- Does the word of God deal with all non organic issues... Yes
- And Christian when one believer refuses then the obedient believer has the backing of God and His church
- If it does have to go to court praise God we even have guidance there!

**1 Corinthians 6:5 ESV:** I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers,

- Do we not know the word enough to **disciple and mediate in disputes in the Church?**
- I believe the Body of Christ has the wisdom of God to mediate disputes
- I believe the Love of God is present here to enable the body to be mended between believers...

**1 Corinthians 6:6 ESV:** but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers?

= What a sad scene for the body of Christ when our selfishness and self-centeredness takes center stage and enters the world's arena to be put on display before that world that is **watching our witness**... (believer suing another believer!)

**Application**= Church we must not be judged by the world but we must turn to God first and trust His instruction.

## II. **BECAUSE WE BELONG TO GOD, WE ARE JUDGED BY GOD'S COURT** *as He has already dealt with the case*

Praise God when I look down at verses 7-11 I see victory for the Child of God!!!

**1 Corinthians 6:7 ESV:** To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded?

The fact that a dispute between believers is in court is a lose no matter if you win in the world's eyes because God is able in all cases...

Because we are not focused on the earthly as our primary we can suffer lose here Christians... **this does not mean we are a doormat but rather a doorway to healing/** a minister in all situations

= God has called us to be ministers of reconciliation... reconciling people to God

= We lead the lost to a God who forgives when we do not go for the throat but rather go for the heart!

= We lead fellow Christians to reconcile with God their Father when we do not go to court but rather suffer for the cause of Christ and His body...

### **Why not suffer wrong?** (God knows who is right)

- We have all been cheated... *and God is their judge who deals with His children and has given the church to deal with the sin between believers*
- If something was stolen from you... *God owns it all (Trust in His providence)*

### **Why not rather be defrauded?** (Your identity is in Christ)

- Whose name is more important, Yours or the name of Jesus whom you represent?
- Whose identity will be upheld in the end? The Name of Jesus that was applied to your life as a follower of Christ
  - *We have signed on to defend His name and His mission*

**1 Corinthians 6:8 ESV:** But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!

- What a witness that we would go for the throat of a fellow believer... *to defraud them...to wrong them*

**1 Corinthians 6:9 ESV:** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,

**1 Corinthians 6:10 ESV:** nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

**There is a separation today between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of this world...**

- If you are here today and do not know the Lord, **the kingdom of God is reaching out to you...** where Jesus is Lord of your life...

- Today you may say this makes no sense... Why we would not take every matter to the world's courts... (that is your only resort as you are a citizen of the world's order)
- Jesus wants you to turn to Him first in the matter of the Fact that you are a sinner as all of us are born sinners
- Jesus wants you to know that He died on a cross for your sins, who are all of what [1 Cor. 6:9-10](#) listed... that you may be a citizen of Heaven and Jesus Lord of your life!

If you know the Lord, He should be Lord in all matters this morning... **He should be the mediator of all matters for you** *through His word, His Spirit, and a prayerful yet bold approach* to His throne!

**1 Corinthians 6:11 ESV:** And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

**If Jesus is Lord of your life know this is true of you this morning...**

- **Washed=** *we are found not guilty because of our faith in Jesus as the sacrifice for our sins*
- **You were Sanctified=** *Set apart from this world and to Christ as His own... you belong to HIM*
- **You were Justified in HIS NAME=** *Believer you were not only found not guilty because of the price that was paid for your sins but also been declared righteous (right with God because of Jesus's perfect life)*

**Application=** Church we must not be judged by the world but we must turn to God first and trust His instruction as we are already victorious in Him

## **Closing thoughts...**

**Follower of Christ,** We are victorious Christians in an eternal judicial sense and also in a daily living sense and God is pleased as we turn to Him in all matters...

- *Believer and Follower of Christ, are you turning to the world in matters of dispute?*
- *Today is the day to repent of your sins and turn to Christ as Lord of your life... submitting to Him alone & humbling ourselves before the Lord*
- *We hand over the keys to the kingdom of God... when God has ordained the church to oversee the Kingdom of God*

**If you do not know the Lord,** he is reaching out to you today and will declare you washed clean of your sins, set apart to Him in a personal relationship, and he will declare you before the Father Not Guilt and Righteous this morning... *if you will surrender to Jesus and Lord and Savior today.*

- *Today is the day of salvation*
- *Today is the day to make Him Lord of All*

-----Message from Pastor Michael-----  
Church,

Since we belong to Christ, we must trust Him in all matters in this life and not just for eternity future! Christians turn too quickly to the world to render the verdict we are looking for, but today is the day to commit our lives to the Lord in those areas of tension. It is time to trust in His direction in that area and see Him heal His body and restore our effectiveness. We love you, but He loves you more!

Love in Christ,  
Pastor Michael



