

# *I Corinthians*

## (13) Defeated by Lawsuits

1 Cor 6:1-11

6 If any of you has a dispute with another, dare he take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints? 2 Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? 3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! 4 Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, appoint as judges even men of little account in the church! 5 I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers? 6 But instead, one brother goes to law against another – and this in front of unbelievers!

7 The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? 8 Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers.

9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. 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. NIV

### **Issue #1, Disputes between brothers... ICor.6:1-6**

What was happening in the church at Corinth that Paul addresses now? 6:1

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How does Paul correctly identify the ‘courts’ involved? 6:1; Rom.4:5; Jude 15

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What are the (2) *separate* issues (for believers) involved here? #1, 6:1 #2, 6:7

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What option for #1 was likely available? Jn.18:28-32

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What is Paul’s immediate response to issue #1? 6:1b see Gal.5:16

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What is his supporting argument? 6:2-3; Dan.7:18, 22; Mt.19:28; Rev.2:26-27

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So what’s Paul’s recommendation? 6:4 and the reason? 6:5 (note: difficult to translate...)

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And what is Paul’s sarcastic conclusion? 6:5b-6

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### **Issue #2, Cheating and wronging your brother...6:7-8**

What does Paul emphasize is *the real failure* for them? 6:7; **Eph.5:1-5**

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Instead of allowing themselves to be cheated and wronged, what were they doing? 6:8

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What is another underlying principle in all of this? Gal.6:9-10; IPet.4:7-8; Heb.10:23-25

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### Issue #1, Disputes between brothers... ICor.6:1-6

What was happening in the church at Corinth that Paul addresses now? 6:1

**There were ‘disputes’ among the believers and they were taking each other to ‘court’.**

How does Paul correctly identify the ‘courts’ involved? 6:1; Rom.4:5; Jude 15

**They were the ‘ungodly’. Not a moral indictment, but a statement about being unsaved.**

What are the (2) separate issues (for believers) involved here? #1, 6:1 #2, 6:7

**(#1) taking legal lawsuits before unbelievers (#2) even having lawsuits to begin with!**

What option for #1 was likely available? Jn.18:28-32

**They, like the Jews, were allowed ‘self judging’ up to, but not including, the death penalty.**

What is Paul’s immediate response to issue #1? 6:1b see Gal.5:16

**How dare you! How dare you demean the Name of Christ in front of unbelievers??**

What is his supporting argument? 6:2-3; Dan.7:18, 22; Mt.19:28; Rev.2:26-27

**Don’t you know the saints will judge the world / angels? You’re certainly competent...?**

So what’s Paul’s recommendation? 6:4 and the reason? 6:5 (note: difficult to translate...)

**In such matters appoint men of ‘little account’ to judge! I say this to shame you!**

And what is Paul’s sarcastic conclusion? 6:5b-6

**Is everyone in the church incompetent/judge? Instead, brother vs brother before unsaved!**

### Issue #2, Cheating and wronging your brother...6:7-8

What does Paul emphasize is *the real failure* for them? 6:7; **Eph.5:1-5**

**The public fact that they have lawsuits among them is defeat already! Not Godly at all!**

Instead of allowing themselves to be cheated and wronged, what were they doing? 6:8

**They were the instigators! They cheated and did wrong... and to brothers in Christ!!**

What is another underlying principle in all of this? Gal.6:9-10; IPet.4:7-8; Heb.10:23-25

**Being in Christ, we’re all family. Brothers and sisters. Christ wants us to love each other!**