

When Saints Disagree | 1 Corinthians 6:1-8

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

Main Idea

Saints of the church should seek each other for reconciliation when grievances arise

1. Saints are Set Apart (v. 1)
 - a. Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?
- 2 Corinthians 6:14
 - b. Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me...says the Lord Almighty.
- 1 Corinthians 6:17-18
2. Saints Under Authority Have Authority (vv. 2-3)
 - a. Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God
- Romans 13:1
3. Saints Settle Disputes with Saints (vv. 4-6)
 - a. If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.
- Matthew 18:15-17

4. Saints Seek Reconciliation First (vv. 7-8)

- a. Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.
- James 1:2-4

Application:

- Reflect daily on your place in the world and make constant adjustments
- Seek ways in which your life is not under the authority of Jesus
- Go before your brother or sister if you have a dispute or if you have been wronged
- Seek Reconciliation