

## Resolving conflict without the courts

1 Corinthians 6:1-8, p. 926

### I. THE CHURCH SHOULD HELP BELIEVERS IN CONFLICT, NOT THE COURTS (1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-6).

- A. Since believers will rule with Christ after this life, we should be able to resolve personal conflicts in this life (6:1-4).
  - Saints will judge the world/angels (2 Tim. 2:12; Rev. 3:21)
- B. It is shameful if a church has no one wise or godly enough to help believers resolve conflicts (6:5-6).

Serious conflict between believers (Jesus – Matthew 18:15-17)

1. If someone sins against you, talk to them personally (15).
2. If he/she refuses to hear you, take 2-3 witnesses (16).
3. If he/she refuses to hear them, tell the church (17a).
4. If he/she refuses to repent, remove from fellowship (17b).

### II. BELIEVERS MUST ACCEPT SOME INJUSTICE TO AVOID SPIRITUAL DEFEAT (1 CORINTHIANS 6:7-8).

- A. Lawsuits with fellow believers are a spiritual defeat before we even try to win in the courtroom (6:7a).
- B. It is better to be wronged and cheated than to win in court against a fellow believer (6:7b).
- C. Conflicts that start lawsuits expose our greed and lying (6:8).

Transition: God saved us to live differently than the world filled with greed and immorality (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).