

9 – CONCERNING LAWSUITS (1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-11)

I. The Issue (1 Corinthians 6:1)

A. Their Practice (1 Corinthians 6:1a)

- Paul addresses their practice of going to the courts when someone has a grievance.

B. The Question (1 Corinthians 6:1b)

- He asks why they go before unbelievers rather than settling the issue among believers.

II. Their Future Roles (1 Corinthians 6:2-3)

A. Judges of Humanity (1 Corinthians 6:2)

- Paul points out that they will judge the world in the future kingdom.
- He questions why they cannot judge their grievances since they will judge the world.

B. Judges of Angels (1 Corinthians 6:3)

- Paul points out that they will judge angels in the future kingdom.
- He stresses that they should be able to judge issues pertaining to life.

III. Their Folly (1 Corinthians 6:4-6)

A. The Question (1 Corinthians 6:4)

- Paul questions why they would then go to the lost to settle their disputes.

B. No One is Capable (1 Corinthians 6:5)

- Paul sarcastically tells them that they do not have someone to settle their disputes.

C. Their Public Testimony (1 Corinthians 6:6)

- Paul states that brothers are in conflict in the presence of unbelievers.

IV. Paul's Rebuke (1 Corinthians 6:7-8)

A. Their Shame (1 Corinthians 6:7a)

- The fact of their lawsuits gives testimony to their failure and shame.

B. The Preferred Response (1 Corinthians 6:7b)

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- Paul asks why they would rather not be wronged than present such a testimony.

C. The Reality of Their Actions (1 Corinthians 6:8)

- Paul states that they were actively engaged in wronging and cheating each other.

V. The Destiny of the Lost (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

A. The Reality Stated (1 Corinthians 6:9a)

- Paul reminds them that unbelievers will not inherit the kingdom of God.

B. The Warning (1 Corinthians 6:9b)

- He warns them about being deceived concerning the reality of their spiritual condition.

C. The Reality Expanded (1 Corinthians 6:9c-10)

- Paul presents ten forms of evil that is incompatible with the kingdom of God.

D. Their Past and Present Condition (1 Corinthians 6:11)

- Paul points out that they were once marked by these sins.
- Paul states that they are now made new in Jesus Christ.