

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## Righting Wrongs

### I Corinthians 6:1-11

Paul continues to respond to the concerns the believers in Corinth brought to him.

- Distinguishing between **just** and **unjust** reasons for separating from each other
- To what lengths were they going to separate?

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He likes to use rhetorical questions to identify the point

- He wants them to face the answer in their own minds

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**Vs. 1**, Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints?

- Who do we trust the most, God's church or civil government?

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**\*3:19**, For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.

- Are Christians who sue each other willing to be **known as fools** to God?
- Are they even living **FOR** God... or just for themselves?

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It's their unjust divisions that led them to not trust God's people

- They already violated the confidence of obedience to His will
- Unwilling to risk the trials of being "peacemakers" (**Matt. 5:9**)
- Who Christ promises "will be called children of God."

Instead, **choosing for themselves**, just as **Eve & Lot** did before them

- Eve didn't **rely on her husband**, and her son **wouldn't** rely on his brother
- Lot wouldn't **prefer His uncle**, who had led him on the path to wealth...
- And he **didn't bother** to ask God

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**Vs. 2**, Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? (exercise just discretion & discernment) And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

- So, **by what standard** are we "judging" (evaluating) now?
- If we don't **evaluate** by God's standards, we won't **decide** by them either

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When Christ returns, the government will be on His shoulders... (**Isaiah 9:6**)

- And we will rule & reign with Him. (**Rev. 5:10**) What should we do now?
- How are we doing in preparation for His return?

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**Vs. 3**, Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?

- **Matthew 25:21**, "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'"

Little things aren't little in our faithfulness and submission to God...

- Which include His standards for our relationships with each other

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**Vs. 4,** If then you have judgments (*disputes needing resolution*) concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are **least esteemed by the church** to judge?

- Recent SCOTUS decisions about parental authority, their children & schools

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**Vs. 5,** I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, **not even one**, who will be able to judge between his brethren?

- Are there any **you are willing to trust**, instead of godless government?

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Are we committed & submitted to the fellowship of Christ's church? (**I John 1:3**)

- Or have we remained independent, subject to no one but ourselves?
- Yet willing to submit to godless civil government instead.

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**Vs. 6,** But brother goes to law against brother, and that **before unbelievers!**

- Preferring godless government over God's chosen relational authority

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**Vs. 7,** Now therefore, it is already an utter failure for you that you go to law against one another. Why do you not rather accept wrong? Why do you not rather let yourselves be cheated?

- Maybe the petitioner wanted the church, but the offender would not

Paul has been contrasting worldly foolishness to God's freely offered wisdom

- We are one body together, the body of Christ. When one of us commits wrong, ignoring the body...
- As a functioning member of the body, the whole body is liable for it together.
- The whole body gets a black eye & a bad reputation.

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Would you sue yourself?

- **Would Christ?**

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How do we protect ourselves against wrong in the body of Christ?

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**Vs. 8,** No, you yourselves do wrong and cheat, and you do these things to your brethren!

- So, **who is the most wrong?** The one who cheated, or the one who sued them for it?
- Which is most un-Christlike?

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If you suffered the wrong in silence, what do you do?

- Give it to Christ. **He paid for the ownership of it** when He suffered for yours & mine.
- **Will we deprive Him of it, and claim it for ourselves?**

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**Vs. 9-10,** Do you not know that the unrighteous **will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived. **Neither** fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals (*male prostitutes*), nor sodomites (*committed homosexuals*), nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners **will inherit the kingdom of God.**

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This is an emphatic... non-negotiable; not open to interpretation. (**Romans 1:18-32**)

- Who can claim to love someone by encouraging a life committed to sin?
- A life that will exclude them from Christ's fellowship forever

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**Vs. 11**, And **such were** some of you. **But** you were washed, but you were **sanctified**, but you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus and **by the Spirit of our God**.

- *Our changed lives are **the evidence** of the power of God's love*

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**Romans 5:8**, But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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**Romans 3:23, 6:23 & 10:9**,

- **(January)** For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
- **(February)** For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- **(March)** If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. (***You see where this is going***)

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Because of "**and such were some of you**", we have hope to offer every person who does not know Christ as Lord & Savior... yet

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So... **How do you love? To what end? On whose terms?**

- *Yours? The world's? Or God's?*

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**Who do you love?**

- *Do you love Christ **in your brothers & sisters** in Him?*
- *Do you love them **in Him enough** to forgive them if they wrong you?*

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Have you banked that forgiveness **before** they wrong you?

- *So if they are willing to transact it, you have it at the ready before they ask you for it?*

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**Luke 17:3-4**, "So watch yourselves. If your brother or sister sins, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."

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Do you keep it at the ready... even if they don't?

- **Deciding that** will determine how we respond
- *Or should we just sue them?*