

"Legally Speaking"

¹When 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! ⁹Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And such were some of you. 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.

1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Current Identity – They are saints

When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the **saints**? 1 Corinthians 6:1

To the **church of God** that is in Corinth, to **those sanctified in Christ Jesus**, called to be **saints** together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: 1 Corinthians 1:2

Future Identity – They would judge

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! 1 Corinthians 6:2-3

²⁶**The one who conquers** and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give **authority over the nations**, ²⁷and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. Revelation 2:26-27

Gospel Identity – They are of Christ

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, 1 Corinthians 6:4-5

³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. Hebrews 12:3

Only Jesus can balance grace and justice

It is God who is completely just and completely gracious. Even if it is only a glimpse, it is in the church where the world and those in the church should see the balance of grace and justice.

Lost Identity – They were selfish

⁶but **brother** goes to law **against brother**, and that before unbelievers? 1 Corinthians 6:6

⁸But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even **your own brothers**! 1 Corinthians 6:8

A lose-lose Proposition – They were defeated

⁷To have lawsuits at all with one another is **already a defeat for you**. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? 1 Corinthians 6:7

Eternal Identity – They are the Church

⁹Or do you not know that **the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And **such were some of you. 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**. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Made for More

Made to balance justice and grace – made to walk humbly – made to recognize our wrongs – made to seek forgiveness rather than justify our wrongs – made to yield when needed – made to listen – made to admit – made to be fair and just – made to show grace – made to suffer

³⁵ “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35

You are made for more

- What have you learned this week about your identity in Jesus Christ and your calling in His church?

- What step(s) can you take this week to more effectively live into your identity?

