

I. Introduction: Paul confronted the Corinthians for bringing law suits against one another, calling them to settle their affairs in the church or to forgive the debt.

- A. The Corinthians were still hanging on to their old way of life, continuing to sue their brothers and sisters in the church, and it was hurting their testimony in Corinth.

II. Stop Suing One Another (1 Cor 6:1-11).

A. Paul's Rebuke (vv. 1-4).

1. Paul was mortified the Corinthians were bringing their disputes before unbelieving courts, because it was creating a bad reputation for their church and for Jesus.

B. Paul's Resolution (vv. 5-8).

1. Paul told them to let a wise brother judge their case rather than bring it to court; or perhaps they could just excuse the debt rather than ruin their testimony.

C. Paul's Reminder (vv. 9-11).

1. Paul reminded the Corinthians of their spiritual past, that they were only recently washed from their terrible sins, so they ought to show grace to each other.

III. Conclusion: Paul told the Corinthians to stop suing one another and to allow those in their own church to settle disputes, remembering to show grace and to extend forgiveness.

Questions About: Stop Suing One Another

1. Is it ever right for a Christian to sue another Christian? When Should we take a dispute to court? What about criminal matters, like murder? What specific situation was Paul addressing?
2. What was Paul's major objection to one Christian suing another? (**1 Cor 6:1-4**) What kind of court case were they engaged in? Why do court cases usually bring out the worst in people?
3. Why did Paul say that Christians are qualified to judge? (**1 Cor 6:1-4**) How will Christians judge the world? (**v. 2; John 5:22; Rev 2:26; 3:21; 20:4**) How will we judge angels?
4. What solution(s) did Paul offer to the Corinthians? (**1 Cor 6:5-8**) How did Paul mock their claims of wisdom? (**v. 5**) Why did it bother Paul that they were suing one another? (**v. 6**)
5. Why did Paul say that they had already lost? (**1 Cor 6:7-8**) How had they lost? Why does everyone lose when Christians sue each other? How do lawsuits destroy our testimony?
6. What did Paul say to those that were being defrauded? (**1 Cor 6:7-8**) Why would he say this? Do you value souls more than money? What did Paul say to those who were stealing? (**v. 8**)
7. How did Paul show them why they needed to forgive their debts? (**1 Cor 6:9-11**) Why did he tell them not to be deceived? (**v. 9**) How has God washed you of your sins?
8. Have you been in a dispute with another Christian? How would God want you to deal with them as a brother, and not as an adversary? (**Eph 4:32**) Are you concerned with money or people?

Prayer

1. Pray that God would help you to have the attitude of reconciliation and restoration.
2. Pray that God would wash you, justify you, and sanctify you, if you do not know Him.