

Good Morning
and
Welcome to Genesis the Church!



***Let's Begin by Dismiss Our Kids to Their
Kid's Quest Programs!***

DISMISS



Text:

1 Corinthians 6:1-8!

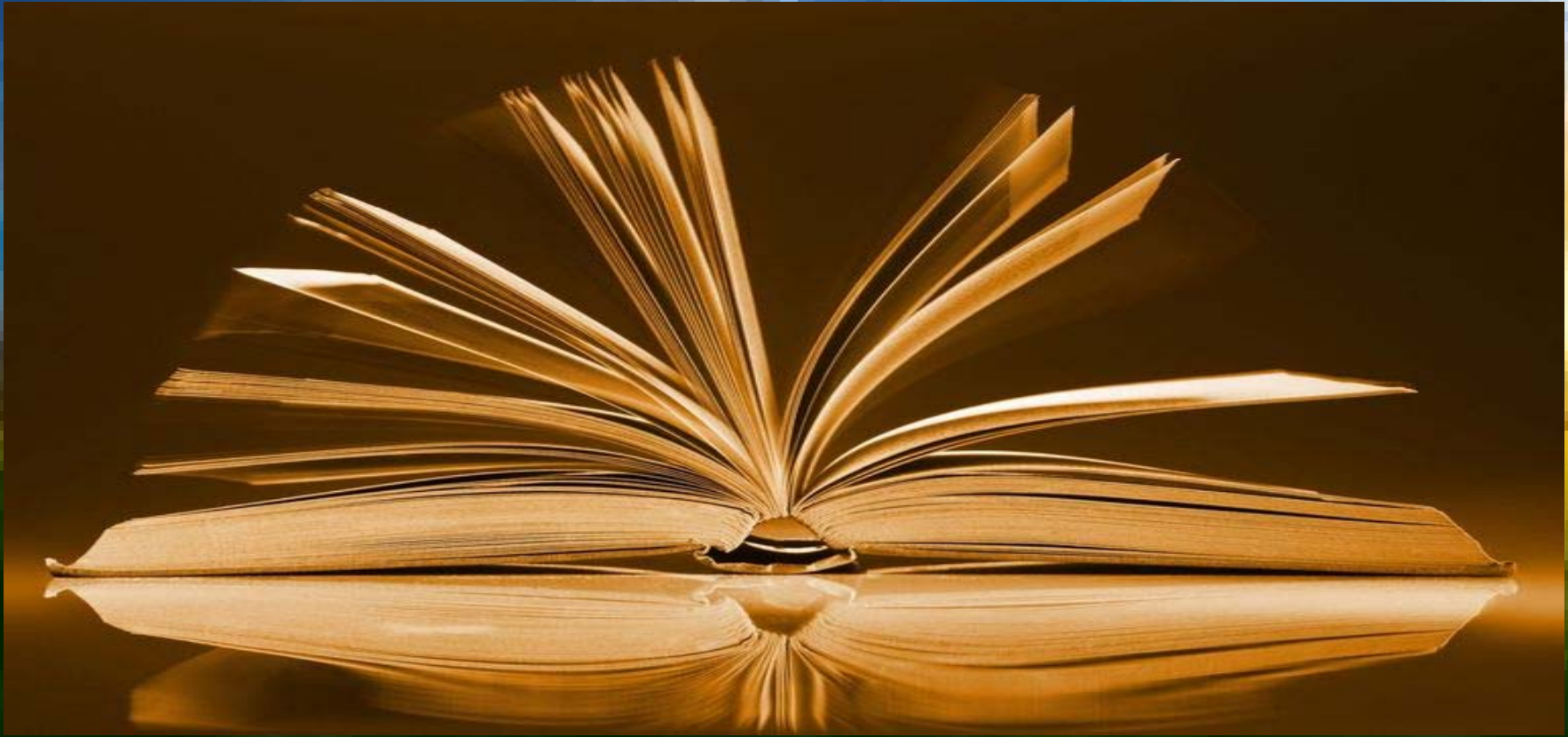
Title:

Lawsuits By and Against the Saints!

Theme:

***The Sin of Self-Centeredness Brings
Shame Upon the Name of Jesus!***

The Scriptures:
1 Corinthians 6:1-8!



*This morning we continue our journey through the **second major section** in Paul's letter to the Corinthian church. Paul's goal is help believers **evaluate their hearts** before God and **adjust their walk (testimony)** before men.*



Overview Of Our Journey

- I. (Chaps.1-4) The **Division** taking place in the Church at Corinth!
- II. (Chaps.5-6) The **Disorders** taking place in the Church!
 - A. (Chap.5) Focus: Morality / Outward Actions.
 - B. (Chap.6) Focus: Money / Inward Attitudes.

Overview Of Our Journey

III. (Chaps.7-14) The *Discussions* taking place in the Church!

IV. (Chap.15) The importance of *Doctrine* in the Church!

V. (Chap.16) The personal & practical *Decisions* of Paul!

The Setting for Chapter 5:

Last week our focus was on the city's ability to be one of the great **vacation spots** and **entertainment centers** in the world. As a result of its location, its large indoor and outdoor theaters, its hosting of the Isthmian Games, its large and beautiful hotels, and most of all the predominance of the great temple of Aphrodite – where men could be wined and dined and worship with its more than 1000 temple priestesses, Corinth became the number one vacation spot for merchants, travelers, and the rich and famous.

The Setting for Chapter 6:

This morning our focus turns from the city's ability to host and entertain the thousands of people visiting the city, to the city's **commerce, wealth, and economic interests**. Because of the city's prime location, merchandise was constantly passing in and out of the city. And to help keep the merchandise flowing, vast amounts of money was needed. And to keep the money flowing, large banks were continually springing up and being built.

The Setting for Chapter 6:

And of course, anywhere large amounts of money are found, robbers, muggers, thugs, thieves, and swindlers, follow. Because of this the city's arrests were high and her courtrooms were filled with people bringing lawsuits of every kind before its judges. This morning our attention turns from the city's ability to entertain the masses, to the city's handling of corruption and justice. It is in chapter 6 that Paul turns our attention to the problem of litigation by and against the saints living in Corinth.

The Scene:

The philosophies of Paul's day paralleled the thinking of today (hedonism, materialism, narcissism). As a result society centered around the all mighty dollar. And because swindlers, robbers, and thieves were all too eager to take advantage of the unsuspecting and innocent, the courts were packed full. Thus, judges who were willing to move cases through the system quickly, lawyers who were willing to summarize and settle, and jurors who were competent and familiar with the law were needed. And because it was Corinth, the court systems then, like today, found a way to make a buck.

They too had their Judge Judy!



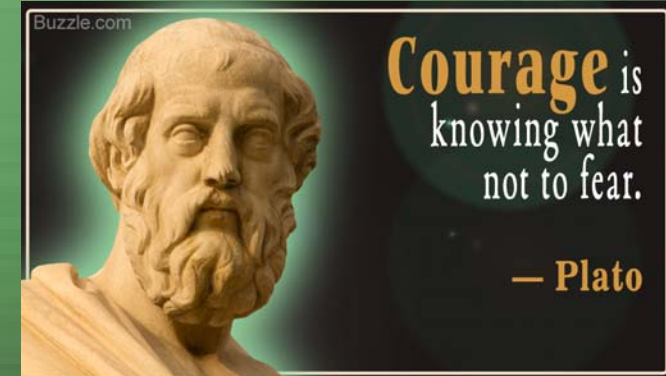
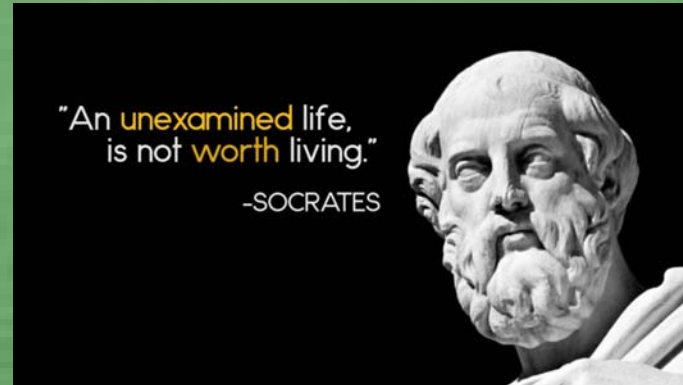
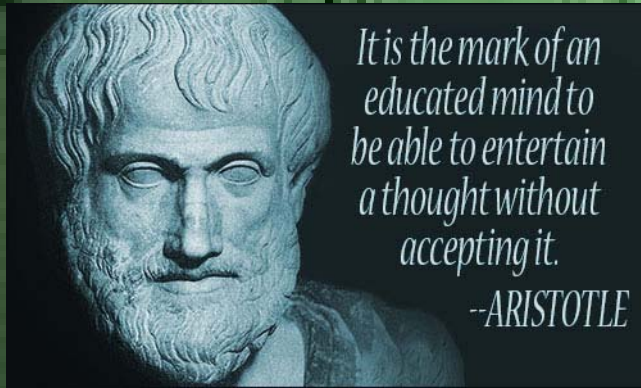
They too had their own “The People’s Court!”



**And the “The People’s Court” in Paul’s Day,
Like Today, Became a Place Where Entertainment and
Justice Came Together!**



The Greek Empire was the Birthplace of Democracy! The Laws of Greece were Laid by the Philosophers!



The Greek Culture Demanded that Abuses and Wrong be
Compensated!

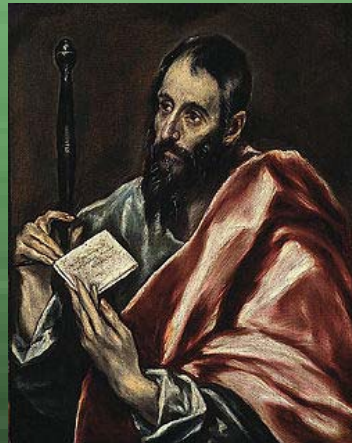
This Morning's Journey Again Focuses On
***Paul's Condemnation of the
Corinthian Church – Litigation!***

- I. (6:1) The Apostle is ***Shocked!***
- II. (6:2-5a) The Corinthians are ***Shamed!***
- III. (6:5b-6) The ***Situation*** is Exposed!
- IV. (6:7-8) The ***Solution*** is Ignored!

I. (6:1) The Apostle is SHOCKED!

A. (Chap.5) Recognizes Paul's Surprise.

B. (Chap.6) Reveals Paul's Shock.



II. (6:2-5a) The Corinthians are SHAMED!

Through Two Rhetorical Questions and a Conclusion:

- A. (v.2) Do you not know (Neg / Strong)
that you will judge the World?
- B. (v.3) Do you not know (Neg / Strong)
that you will judge Angels?
- C. (vs.4-5a) Then why don't you judge
the sinning Saints? (cf. 5:9-13)

II. (6:2-5a) The Corinthians are SHAMED!

Note:

Paul had not only founded the church in Corinth, he was the church's pastor for a year and a half.

When we get to chapter 15 we will find evidence that Paul taught about the future events yet to come.

The assumption here is that the Corinthians were familiar with the events mentioned in the two rhetorical questions. This is why the apostle is able to challenge them with his concluding question.

What Does The Scriptures Say About Judging The World?

Revelation 3:21 – *Those who overcome the world will sit down with Christ on His throne (power / judgment seat) just as He overcame the world, and He will sit down with the Father on His throne. (Here the teaching is that God will judge the world through Christ, and Christ will judge the world through His saints)*

Revelation 20:4 – *Then I saw thrones, and they that sat on them, and judgment was given to them (Context: Final judgment / Satan and the nations).*

What Does The Scriptures Say About Judging Angels?

II Peter 2:4f – *For God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness reserved for judgment ... the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation and keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment.*

Jude 6 – *And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day.*

What Does This Mean?

(The Answer is Found in Paul's Conclusion)

Since God has chosen and entrusted the saints to judge the sinful world and the fallen angels, why do you balk at the idea of judging sin within the walls of your own church at Corinth?

III. (6:5b-6) The SITUATION is Exposed!

- A. (v.5b) Their Shame – Because of their unwillingness to judge sin within the church, their testimony for Christ was mocked by the world!
- B. (v.6) Their Sin – Was to trust in and turn to the wisdom of men and forsake and reject the wisdom of God!

(Paul had been persecuted th/out Macedonia for his testimony)

IV. (6:7-8) The SOLUTION is Ignored!

- A. (v.7a) The Result – The believer's testimony was being ruined by their desire to get even and their lust and greed for the treasures of this world.
- B. (v.7b) The Remedy – Why not be willing to suffer the temporal loss for the eternal gain? (cf. 2:9)
- C. (v.8) The Reality – Is found in the theme!

Paul's Lesson:

While most Christians boast about their salvation, they have forgotten about the importance of their sanctification. As a result, their testimony is often mocked by the unsaved world!

**Christians Are Seen As
HYPOCRITES!**