

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-11

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX733 JANUARY 30, 2010

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

OUT OF HEAVEN

How To Be A Church That's Out Of This World

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Maturity, Servanthood, Leadership, Discipleship

1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Dare any of you, (how dare you) having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, (unbelievers) and not before the saints? :2 Do you not know (stop thinking like that) that the saints will judge the **world**? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? :3 Do you not know (stop thinking like that) that we shall judge **angels**? How much more, things that pertain to this life? :4 If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed (have no ability) by the church to judge? :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? :6 But brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers! :7 Now therefore, it is already an utter failure (a widespread loss) for you that you go to law against one another. Why do you not rather accept wrong (tolerate the personal attack)? Why do you not rather let yourselves be cheated? :8 No, you yourselves do wrong and cheat, and you do these things to your brothers! :9 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, nor sodomites, :10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. :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.

**If we had a subtitle to this message it might be;
"The Wrong Way to Right a Wrong"**

OUT OF HEAVEN

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER?

1.) Comes Our Family

v.1-2

Our “Church” Purpose

Ephesians 4:11

And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, :12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, :13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

1a.) As a family we’re to resolve our own disputes

1 Dare any of you, (how dare you) having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, (unbelievers) and not before the saints?

Treat Them Like Jesus Says to Treat Them

Matthew 18:15-20

“Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. :16 But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that *“by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.”* :17 And if he refuses to hear them, tell *it* to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector. :18 “Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. :19 “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. :20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

1b.) As a family we’re to enter into our rightful place

2a Do you not know (stop thinking like you don’t know this) that the saints will judge the **world**?

I Heard This Week One of the Most Stupid, yet Scariest comments from a Certain News Guy.... He said that, and I quote.... *“Perception is Reality. Whatever is Perceived Becomes the Reality.”* – so not true.
That is deception 101

Example – Does Trying on new Clothes Affect You? Does it “Change You”?
FOR HOW LONG? - - UNTIL YOU PUT ON YOUR UNDEROOS

Reality - is only true - if it agrees with eternity

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Put On Reality.

As a family we’re to enter into our rightful place

Jude 14b-15

“Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, **15** to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

Ephesians 2:4-7

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **:5** even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), **:6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,** **7** that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

OUT OF HEAVEN COMES OUR FAMILY

1c.) As a family we’re to act like our Father

:2b And if the world will be judged by you,
are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

Ephesians 3:14-15

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **:15** from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

The Bible Clearly Teaches That Jesus Christ is the Eternal God, having come down, He appeared to us in human form. In His flesh He showed us how to submit, how to follow, how to obey – He is our life-long example. - -so then

Colossians 2:44-19

Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. :17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. :18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, :19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase *that is* from God.

OUT OF HEAVEN

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER?

2.) Comes Our Future

v.3-5

2a.) Our future is awesome

:3 Do you not know (stop thinking like you don't know this) that we shall judge **angels**?
How much more, things that pertain to this life?

Apparently, We're Going to Get Real Smart, Real Quick

1 Corinthians 13:12

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

Earthly judges have no idea, not a clue

as to how to administer justice in a Christian disagreement. – Even though Human law has been ordained by God, human law is limited.

(I thank God for the spirit-filled, born-again judges that I know and attend this church.)

Colossians 3:1

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. :2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

We are to settle our **internal disputes** away from the eyes and the ears of the world. = ***blogs and all***

Sadly - Is it more important to you that you win the argument even if Jesus has to suffer for your pride? - and the church is injured?

Something Needs to be Said Here

Our culture is textbook Corinthian – Californians sue more people than any other people on the planet. There are more attorneys in California and more lawsuits filed that California is now suffering in every area from it.

**This Godless Way of Thinking Has Become –
to the Christians, Their 11th Commandment**

Category #1 in Action

When Christians cannot get along or cannot come to an agreement, then you're to call for the godly brothers and sisters in the church.

Category #2 in Action

The Punishment of Crimes & Criminal Actions
Is to be conducted in the courts of law.

Category #1 & Category #2 in Action

Matthew 5:22-26

Cat. #1 But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, "Raca!" shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, "You fool!" shall be in danger of hell fire. **:23** Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, **:24** leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. **:25 Cat. #2** Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. **:26** Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of prison till you have paid the very last penny.

OUT OF HEAVEN COMES OUR FUTURE

2b.) Our future is secure

:4 If then you have **judgments** concerning things pertaining to **this life**, (your new life, Christian life) why do you appoint those who are **least esteemed** (have no ability) by the church to judge?

We have **God's Ear** on all matters.
We have **His Bible** to instruct us.
We have a **Deeper Well** to draw from.

Dr. Ironside points out here that

“There is More in the Original Than What Meets the Western Eye
- - Paul throws down the gauntlet by saying..

I am questioning you about this because I have grave doubts
about you actually really knowing the Lord at all.”

OUT OF HEAVEN COMES OUR FUTURE

2c.) Our future is relational

:5 I say this to your **shame**. Is it so (true), that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren? **:6** But brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers!

This was Happening Because, The Church @ Corinth had left Certain Key Biblical Elements Undone. They Had Become **Non-Relational** – True, they were attending the same church. In the same room, in the same service, but in reality, they were unaware of each other's existence.

“But Pastor Jack
I've heard of Christians suing other Christians”
(and the details of that may prove them wrong for sure)

But not everyone who says they are Christians are Christians
(some people say they are Christians just to get a job or to sell their goods)

What happens when a “Christian” for years, on a daily basis, steals cash from people and then traffics in all kinds of criminal activity?”

Should we allow Muslims to Have their Sharia Courts?

They have their own property laws / they have their own family law
They have their own moral code / they have their infidel laws

Well, Shouldn't The Christians Have their Own Court Too?
We do, it's called church.

THE DIFFERENCE IS: - when a Christian commits a crime, he is to turn himself over to the authorities that God has commanded – the criminal process!

The Criminal Process is God-Ordained and we're to obey it.

THESE WERE PERSONAL CHURCH ISSUES.

THIS WAS NOT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU KNOW OF A PERSON, CHRISTIAN OR NOT, THAT'S COMMITTING A CRIME? - YOU CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE OR THE FBI)

The Next Time You Get Pulled Over for Texting or Sleeping,
Tell the Cop – You Can't Touch Me – I'm a Christian.
(see what happens to you – we'll come visit you)

Romans 13:1-7

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. :2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. :3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. :4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to *execute* wrath on him who practices evil. :5 Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. :6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. :7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

OUT OF HEAVEN

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER?

3.) Comes Our Faith

v.7-11

3a.) Working faith stands before the cross

:7 Now therefore, it is already an **utter failure** (public knowledge) for you that you go to law against one another. Why do you not rather accept wrong (tolerate the personal attack)?

Why do you not rather let yourselves be cheated? :8 No, you yourselves do **wrong** and **cheat**, and you do these things to your brothers!

Being mindful of the cross

Allows us to live from the cross = that all is new there.

New life, new hope, new purpose, new existence.

You can be right in the cause, but be wrong in the action.

We're never to treat a Christian unjustly.

Ephesians 4:31-32

Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. **:32** And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

OUT OF HEAVEN COMES OUR FAITH

3b.) Working faith removes our past

:9 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, nor sodomites, **:10** nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortionist will inherit the kingdom of God

We're Out of Time for Today

- next time we'll take an in-depth look at this list of choices that we can make that will keep us out of heaven.

End of Study