

1 CORINTHIANS:

God's Glorious Church in Real Life

Sermon Title: "When Saints forget their Past"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Pastor Chris Fritz / Sunday, January 31, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Note: The church is a "called out" community, a "redeemed" community of brothers and sisters in Christ who have the wonderful privilege and responsibility to glorify God together as they love and care for one another.

I. REMEMBER WHO YOU WERE... REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE!

1 Corinthians 6:1, 5a -

A. Personal arguments and vindictive disputes can ruin our testimony and our fellowship.

Note: Instead of going to court, Paul urged and expected them to handle these matters "in house"!

Clarification #1 - These verses are not a "slam" on any and every judicial system!

Clarification #2 - We need to understand the difference between a 'sin' and a 'crime'.

Romans 13:3-7 -

1 Corinthians 6:2-6 -

B. We must remember both our glorious future and our present blessings!

Paul's Point: One day you'll help Christ rule the universe; surely you can settle some minor disputes!

1 Corinthians 6:7-8 -

Note: Before pursuing legal action, we must consider what is in the best interest of the Gospel!

Matthew 5:43-45 -

Note: As believers, we must accept the fact that in this sinful world, we won't get "perfect justice".

Romans 12:19-20 -

Note: We don't ever want to become so preoccupied with our personal rights that we lose sight of primary responsibilities.

Galatians 2:20; 1 Corinthians 6:19b-20 -

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 -

C. To grow in grace and Christ-likeness, we must remember our redeemed, grace-filled past!

Note: Paul underscores the radical and destructive nature of sin, all sin and all kinds of sin!

- *"the sexually immoral" -*
- *"idolaters" -*
- *"adulterers" -*
- *"men who practice homosexuality" -*
- *"thieves" -*
- *"greedy" -*
- *"drunkards" -*
- *"revilers" -*
- *"swindlers" -*

"And 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 6:11)

Note: Knowing Jesus (being washed, sanctified, justified because of His redeeming work) ALWAYS results in life change and transformation!

Note: You, who have been forgiven so much and now possess such a glorious salvation (being washed, sanctified, justified!), how can you not forgive and show mercy to those who offend you?

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. What is the root problem that Paul addresses in 1st Corinthians 6:1-11?
2. Why would Paul expect for believers to be able to resolve personal grievances "in house"?
3. How do disagreements and lawsuits between believers effect our testimony before the world?
4. Why does Paul, within the context of disagreements and lawsuits, remind the Corinthians of who they used to be and what Jesus has done for them?
5. Are you wrestling with any disagreements or grievances with another believer? How can you work to resolve that in a way that demonstrates grace and promotes unity and fellowship in the body?