

I Corinthians 6:1-11

Wise Judges

Introduction:

It has been said by a rather pessimistic political commentator that our three branches, the Executive, Legislative and Judicial are actors carrying out their roles merely for the sake of their job. In other words their whole motivation is primarily to keep their job and receive a pay check in place rather than stand for what is decent according to our Constitution of the United States.

Surely such a corruption may exist for some holding these government offices; but on the other hand some act with good conscience casting their vote according to righteous principles.

Now such a scenario could exist in the church as it was with the Corinthians officers who were neglecting their responsibility as Judges. They allowed disputes to get out of control and as a result such disputes among members were taken outside the church to secular courts.

I. The Saints Will Judge Both the World and Angels – 1-3

A. Disputes within the Body of Christ

1. The audacity of some – v.1
2. The lack of church discipline – Note. 6 times “do you not know” (v.2,3,9,15,16,19)

B. Christians will Judge

1. The World – Turn To: Matt. 19:27-30 (Luke 22:28-ff.)
2. The Angels – II Pet. 2:4; Jude 1:6; Heb. 2:16; 1:14

II. The Wise Must Judge in Church Courts – v.4-11

A. Jurisdiction

1. Secular courts have no jurisdiction in the church – v. 5:12,13
2. Moses served as a Judge in the Sinai desert – Exodus 18:21-22
3. King Jehoshaphat – II Chron. 19:5

B. Failure to appoint wise Judges

1. Settling disputes outside the church is a defeat – v.7-8
2. It’s better to take the blame and suffer loss than to do what is wrong
3. It’s better to suffer wrong than defraud your brother

C. The fundamental principle to love one another as Christ loved us – John 15:12; Rom.12:10; 13:8 (Eph. 4:2; I Thess. 3:12; 4:9; 5:13; 5:13; Heb. 10:24; I Pet. 1:22; 4:8; I John 4:7; 11,12; II John 1:5)

D. The Kingdom of God

1. Paul lists ten sins that are incompatible with the Kingdom of God
2. The first five sins deal with individual practices
3. The last five sins deal with others

E. The Gospel makes all the difference v.11

1. You yourselves were washed – Rev. 1:5
2. Past tense, point action – But you were washed, sanctified, and justified
3. The whole trinity involved in our salvation – “Lord Jesus Christ,” “Spirit” and “God”

Pastor Nick Iamaio
Reformed Presbyterian Church, 207 South First Street, Fulton, NY13069
Web Site fultonrpc.org 4/7/2013