

Lawsuits and Former Lives

Lesson 5

I Corinthians 6:1 - 20

Introduction

Paul continues to become more specific in his indictments against their sins. He is horrified that they would carry their disagreements before those who are outside the body of Christ. As with other sins mentioned in the epistle, he lists several reasons why this type of action is contrary to God's will. He urges them to go beyond their former lives stating that they have been washed. Apparently, many of them saw fornication as only an incidental action, for Paul spends considerable time here arguing as to its severity.

Lawsuits among Brethren - 6:1-8

1. State specifically the sin Paul accuses them of in vs. 1?
2. List the reasons from vs. 2-4 as to why this action was wrong:
3. How will Christians judge the world?
4. Read John 17:18-23. What might be one reason why these lawsuits were so damaging?
5. What did Paul desire they do in cases of dispute among themselves?

Former Lives - 6:9-11

1. Be prepared to explain (define) each of the terms used in vs. 9, 10 to describe their former behavior.
2. Read Ephesians 2:1-7. Note how this passage explains the process of the Corinthians' sanctification.
3. What does this passage teach about the types of people making up the church in Corinth?

Sin of Fornication - 6:12-20

1. What does it mean to say that all things are lawful? Does this mean that nothing is a sin?
2. Read I Corinthians 8:8-11. How does this passage help to explain Paul's point in 6:12?
3. Paul mentions meats and the belly, and fornication and the body to show that they have entirely different relationships to each other. What are the relationships?
4. What is fornication? List the reasons Paul gives for it being a sin:
5. How is every sin outside the body?
6. Contrast vs. 19, 20 to 3:21-23.