

AND YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS

WHEN CHRISTIANS GO TO COURT

1 Corinthians 6:1-8

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Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? 1 Corinthians 6:1

As a rule, a Christian is never to sue another Christian.

1. It denies the sufficiency of the Word.

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

2. It denies the high position God has planned for our future.

Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, matters of this life? 1 Corinthians 6:2-3

3. It ruins our testimony before unbelievers.

If then you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges who are of no account in the church? I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not among you one wise man who will be able to decide between his brethren, but brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers? 1 Corinthians 6:4-6

You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how will it be made salty again? It is good for nothing anymore, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. Matthew 5:13

For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you," just as it is written. Romans 2:24

4. It denies the commands to love, forgive and trust God.

Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?

1 Corinthians 6:7

5. It often reveals impure motives.

*On the contrary, you yourselves wrong and defraud, and that
your brethren. 1 Corinthians 6:8*

Note: There can be exceptions to the rule.

1. You have a marriage issue that is abusive, destructive and irreconcilable.

*If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.
Romans 12:18*

2. You have a custody issue where children are at risk.