

# Avoiding Defeat

## 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

**Main Idea:** Unresolved disputes between brothers and sisters in a local church must be handled within the church for the sake of the kingdom of God.

**Disputes between brothers and sisters will occur in the local church.**

- *1a When one of you has a grievance against another,*
  - *Ephesians 4:32*

**Disputes must not become lawsuits outside the church for the sake of the kingdom of God.**

- *1b does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints?*
- *4 So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church? 5 I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, 6 but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers?*

**Disputes must be handled within the church for the sake of the kingdom of God.**

- *2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? 3 Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!*
  - *Matthew 19:28*

**Disputes must not proceed from disputed wrong to blatant wrong.**

- *7 To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? 8 But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!*
  - *Romans 12:17-18*

## So What?

**Does the Lord Jesus Christ define my life or does wrongdoing?**

- *9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 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.*
  - *Ephesians 4:25-32*