

I Corinthians 6:1-8 Who Are You? Really. (Lawsuits Before Unbelievers)
1/19/2025

I cannot stress enough how important it is to know who you are in Christ.

The new nature that you have when we become Christians is who you were always meant to be.

It is not that identity that you made up for yourself, or that others tried to impose onto you.
There is no lasting satisfaction in pretending to be something that you are not.

The Bible spends a lot of time telling us about the power and satisfaction that comes from living out of our new nature.

Romans 12:1-2 It takes a while to walk about in the new nature; your new identity, and be transformed, "By the renewing of your mind."

The new life in Christ is not an "add-on" to your identity you already have, and have grown accustomed to.

I asked a question of a group once, saying, "Are you just a sinner saved by grace and now just trying to be a better person; Is that all there is to it?" To my surprise most said, "Yes." "The 'real' me stays basically unchanged," they said. WOW!

That is an **identity problem!** The Corinthians had the same problem!

I Corinthians 4:20 "For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power!"

They had a bit of trouble believing the best of the good news in Christ. There is this; that there is power to live a new life!

Ex. Several movies have a theme of memory loss, amnesia. Such a tension for the viewer as you want to scream out, "**Don't you remember who you are!**" (Borne Identity, Hancock, 50 First Dates, Total Recall, Overboard, and many, many others.)

The world system can press in on you, and get so loud that you are tempted to go their way.

Text: I Corinthians 6:1-8

They were saved but had not grown much. Paul will not allow them to wallow in immaturity.

Paul wants to expand what their new identity involves; reaching back into eternity past as a plan for them, (Ephesians 1) and what the **future** holds for them, and how that affects the now!
Right now!

6:1-4 Paul assumes it must be from ignorance, and not from hardened sin or compromise with the world.

Point: You treat the church, the home of the Holy Spirit in its members, as though it was without authority, wisdom and power. You take your case from the highest court to the lowest court to seek what seems right to unbelievers?

{ Paul himself appealed to Roman justice at times (Acts 16:37-38, 22:25, 28:19) but never in matters between brothers. }

Quote: "It is absurd in itself, and quite inconsistent with the divine idea and counsel, that any of you should now appear at their bar, who shall appear at yours."

6:2 "Saints will judge the world." Greek- krinousiv (κρινουσιν) To judge or rule

Revelation 20:4,6 In Millennial kingdom, and maybe more.

II Timothy 2: 8-13 "Reign with Him"/ **Romans 8:16-17** "Fellow heirs with Christ"

Luke 22:24-30 Judging and ruling

6:3 "Rule over angels" Angels are not created in God's image, and the never experienced redemption from sin. | **Peter 1:21, Hebrews 1:14, 2:16, Psalms 91:11**

6:5-6 "Not one wise man?" People full of sensuality do not become wise, but only self-absorbed.

6: 7-8 They may win their little battle, but they lost the war! Motive all wrong!

6:7 "Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?"

Ex. Man heard this sermon and said, "Nobody is ever going to rip me off , or get away with something he did to me!"

Luke 6:27-28, 35-36 If you engage at all with people you will risk getting used or hurt. You do not have to be a doormat and boundaries are important, but do more than just do good to those who always do you right.

6:8 It will just keep getting worst till a maturing believer puts a stop to it. Once the practice becomes normalized, the emotions then "rule over" things and the witness for Christ is lost, and few are now thinking about their true identity in Christ. It becomes just worldliness wrapped in religious language and the dullest unbeliever sees right through it!