

**First Baptist Church of Progress Village**  
**Wednesday Bible Study**  
**1 Corinthians Chapter 6:1-8 Part 1**  
**Todd E. Hammond, Senior Pastor**  
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**I. Expectation of Higher Standards**

**1 Corinthians 5:11-13 (NLT2)** *I meant that you are not to associate with anyone who claims to be a believer yet indulges in sexual sin, or is greedy, or worships idols, or is abusive, or is a drunkard, or cheats people. Don't even eat with such people. It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning. God will judge those on the outside; but as the Scriptures say, "You must remove the evil person from among you."*

**Deuteronomy 13:1-5 (KJV)** ...5 *And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.*

- A. Scripture contains strong language and instructions against **false** prophets and teachers who attempt to draw people away from God.

**Deuteronomy 13:6-11 (KJV)** *If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers; ...11 And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is among you.*

- B. **No one** is above the standard God has set for idolatry, and **any one** who acts as an agent of **wickedness** should be called out.

What is idolatry? The **distraction** of anyone and anything from keeping God first always.

**Deuteronomy 17:2-7 (NLT2)** ...4 *When you hear about it, investigate the matter thoroughly. If it is true that this detestable thing has been done in Israel, then the man or woman who has committed such an evil act must be taken to the gates of the town and stoned to death. But never put a person to death on the testimony of only one witness. There must always be two or three witnesses. The witnesses must throw the first stones, and then all the people may join in. In this way, you will purge the evil from among you.*

- C. Confronting the seriousness of sin in the body, must be **proven** not simply **alleged**.

**Deuteronomy 21:18-21 (NLT2)** *"Suppose a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father or mother, even though they discipline him. In such a case, the father and mother must take the son to the elders as they hold court at the town gate. The parents must say to the elders, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious and refuses to obey. He is a glutton and a drunkard.' Then all the men of his town must stone him to death. In this way, you will purge this evil from among you, and all Israel will hear about it and be afraid.*

- D. The church has responsibility for all **members**, not just their own **blood** relatives.

**Reference Reading : Deuteronomy 22:13-21 (NLT2)**

- E. Examples of standards given to measure and judge in a way that honors and obeys God.

- 1) Diet (**Lev 19:26**)
- 2) Grooming (**Lev 19:27-28**)
- 3) Parental Responsibility (**Lev 19:29**)
- 4) Regular Worship (**Lev 19:30-31**)

- 5) Elder Care (**Lev 19:32**)
- 6) Immigration Standards (**Lev 19:33-34**)
- 7) Business Practices (**Lev 19:35-36**)
- 8) Obedience & Consistency (**Lev 19:37**)

God insisted His people take an **active** role in both **identifying** and **removing** sin from their midst.

**1 Corinthians 6:1 (KJV)** *Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?*

F. Believers are qualified to judge sin based on God's **Word**, not societal **tolerance**.

**1 Corinthians 6:2-3 (NLT2)** *Don't you realize that someday we believers will judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can't you decide even these little things among yourselves? Don't you realize that we will judge angels? So you should surely be able to resolve ordinary disputes in this life.*

G. Believers will sit as **witnesses** and **jury** during the Millennial reign of Christ. (Matthew 19:28)

**1 Corinthians 6:4 (NLT2)** *If you have legal disputes about such matters, why go to outside judges who are not respected by the church?*

H. Those who do not know God cannot **discern** Godly wisdom, therefore cannot effectively **render** judgments based on His wisdom.

I. Major Issue with Believers needing "help" from non-believers in minor disputes.

**1 Corinthians 6:5 (NLT2)** *I am saying this to shame you. Isn't there anyone in all the church who is wise enough to decide these issues?*

a. Believers were not using their God-given gifts to **settle** their differences.

**1 Corinthians 6:6 (NLT2)** *But instead, one believer sues another—right in front of unbelievers!*

b. Believers were presenting a poor **testimony** to the lost over minor (petty) issues.

**1 Corinthians 6:7-8 (NLT2)** *Even to have such lawsuits with one another is a defeat for you. Why not just accept the injustice and leave it at that? Why not let yourselves be cheated? Instead, you yourselves are the ones who do wrong and cheat even your fellow believers.*

c. There can be **no winner** when believers wrong and sue each other.

**Matthew 5:38-42 (KJV)** *Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.*

d. Better to lose a **fight** (over money or possessions) than to lose a **brother** and lose your **testimony**.

**Next Week Finish or re-Read Chapter 6**