

The Greatest Testimony – A Changed Life

History and explanation

The problem

*Lawsuits between Christians are a massive failure, because it demonstrates to the world that believing in Jesus is powerless. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Corinthians need to be who they already are in Christ.*

Vs. 6 “...but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers?”

There’s one argument nobody can refute

*...and it’s the one that you can make better than anyone else*

**Be Righteous**

Paul’s play on words

(Below, I translate to illustrate the continuity of language that gets missed in English translations).

Vs. 1 “Does he dare go to law before the unjust?”

Vs. 9 “Or do you not know that the unjust will not inherit the kingdom of God?”

Vs. 8 “But you yourselves do injustice and defraud.”

True identity

Vs. 11 – “And such were some of you, but you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of God.”

The doctrine of justification

**Be Reigning**

Rhetorical questions and redemptive shame

A kingly race

Vs. 2, 3 – “Saints will judge the world... Do you not know that we are to judge angels?”

Designed for dominion (Gen 1:26-28)

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Made to reign with Christ

2 Timothy 2:12 “If we endure, we will reign with him.”

Revelation 20:4 “[The martyrs] came to life and reigned with him 1000 years.”

Revelation 20:6 “They will reign with him for 1000 years.”

Revelation 3:21 “To the one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne.”

So...

*1. Exercise kingly discernment! 2. Don't settle for slavery. 3. Appreciate your destiny 4. Love America!*

**Be Unrecognizable**

Why not be defrauded?

*Wouldn't you rather just lose the money than drag your brother to court?*

*“Life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” - Jesus*

Giving up your rights

**Questions for Personal Study**

1. Imagine two Christians going to court. What would this say to unbelievers? The church body? Others?
2. What is the doctrine of justification by faith? How would you explain it to a 10 year old?
3. What does it mean for you that you were made to reign, and will reign with Christ? Are you growing in that wisdom now?
4. How did Jesus give up his rights for God's glory? Are you willing to do that as well?