

**#30**

<sup>1</sup> Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints?

<sup>2</sup> Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?

<sup>4</sup> If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed by the church to judge?

<sup>5</sup> I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren?

<sup>6</sup> But brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers!

1 Corinthians 6:1-6

**1. The Roman Judicial system**

- a) Rome had an established Judicial system
- b) It was in use for hundreds of years
- c) The system was called The Twelve Tables
- d) It has affected Judicial systems in the Western world

**2. The system covered many aspects**

- a) Criminal Law
- b) Civil Law
- c) Religious Law
- d) Family Law

### **3. But it was not a perfect Legal system**

- a) The Patricians (Upper Class)  
They were well protected by the Law
- b) The Plebians (Lower Class)  
They were not as protected
- c) The Plebians were on the losing side almost all the time
- d) Bribery was common
- e) All too often, there is a miscarriage of Justice

### **4. Brethren suing each other in the Roman Law Courts**

- a) This was the sad reality among some of the brethren
- b) Some used the Law Courts to settle problems that could have been resolved without resorting to legal means
- c) The people who stood to gain
  - i) The rich
  - ii) The powerful
  - iii) The influential
- d) The people who stood to lose
  - i) The Plebians
  - ii) The Poor
  - iii) The uneducated

### **5. Paul's admonition**

- a) To settle disputes amicably
- b) To resolve disputes among the brethren by turning to wise brethren

- c) Suing each other in the Roman Court of Law was to be avoided as much as possible

#### **6. Clear abuse of the Law**

- a) The trial of the Lord Jesus before Pontius Pilate
- b) Paul before the magistrates in Philippi

#### **7. Is the Judicial System to be rejected?**

- a) No!
- b) It is there to ensure the protection of ALL citizens
- c) Law and Order must be upheld
- d) Justice must be fully supported