

Study of 1Corinthians 6
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1Corinthians 6:1-20

Here in *chapter 6* of *1Corinthians* Paul is talking to believers, and he expresses his disappointment at their behaviour and gives them advice as to how they are to conduct themselves. Paul has been teaching them the Gospel of **TRUTH** for years now, and a big part of the Gospel narrative, is the teaching about the love that we are to have for each other, as was exemplified by Messiah Himself. We are to love Elohim and love our brothers and sisters who are made in the likeness of Elohim. The theme of this chapter **IS, IT IS** better for you, as a believer in the Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq, and Ya'aqov, and follower of Messiah to suffer a loss for your brother's sake, than to take your problems, your differences, your disputes, that you have with a brother of the body or Messiah, before judges who are non believers, and allow them, **to judge you**. Now please pay attention to what Paul actually calls these people. Paul says, *dare you go to law before THE UNJUST?*

The world does indeed have a legal system **BUT IT IS NOT** necessarily a **JUST** system. Many factors beside the **TRUTH** are considered in the man made legal systems of the world. Things such as the judge's bias, his political affiliation, societies tolerance or intolerance for certain behaviours and or crimes, the perpetrator's upbringing or circumstances before committing the crime. The Word of Elohim tells us that **IF** the crime has been committed, then whatever the Torah prescribed punishment **IS, IT IS TO BE APPLIED**. The only criteria that the judges are to establish **IS, IS** the perpetrator **GUILTY OR NOT**. That is why Paul wants us to be judged **by our peers**, so that the Torah (Law) of Elohim can be applied in the manner that Yahweh has prescribed and ordained; in a **JUST** and compassionate manner for the sake of the victim and the community.

Paul tells us, that we, the believers, will actually become judges of the whole world, and, of angels also, in the seventh millennium, and that we, only the believers in the Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq and Ya'aqov, should be judging the body of believers **IN ANY AND ALL CIRCUMSTANCES** where there is a controversy or an offence between brothers. *Colossians 2:16 Let no man therefore judge you in what you eat, or what you drink, or in respect of a holy day, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; BUT let ONLY the body of Messiah judge you.*

In this verse Paul is making it very clear, that we are **BOT** to let the gentiles judge us, on what we eat and or drink, **WHAT** Elohim has Commanded us to eat and or drink, or when we celebrate the Feasts of our heavenly Father, or His Shabat. The only ones, my friends, that are to judge you, are those that have been grafted into the body of Messiah, for it does **NOT** matter what the world thinks; the only thing that **IS OR SHOULD BE IMPORTANT** to any and all believers, **IS** what our heavenly Father wants us **TO DO**. Our heavenly Father has given us His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, on how He wants us to behave, and it behooves every believer, to do exactly what our heavenly Father has ordained we do, through the Words of His Torah of Life.

Now as we read *verse 4*, I want you to listen to Paul's disdain for what is happening in Corinth

among the believers, *verse 4 If then you have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church. 5 I speak to your SHAME. Is it so, that there IS NOT A WISE MAN AMONG YOU? No, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren? 6 But brother goes to law with brother, AND THAT BEFORE THE UNBELIEVERS.*

If Paul were to come back among the body of believers today, do you think he would be pleased with what is happening in the body of Messiah? Is the body of Messiah today *judging themselves* according to the Word of Elohim, or, are they doing exactly what their ancestors were doing at Corinth, and possibly even worse than our Corinthian brothers and sisters? My friends, it may be impossible for us today to set up a judicial system where the wise men of the body of Messiah judge between brothers, but, that does **NOT** stop us from surrendering our wills to our heavenly Father, and **NOT** going to Law against each other. Listen to what Paul is telling us we should do;

Verse 7 Now therefore, THERE IS UTTERLY A FAULT AMONG YOU, BECAUSE you go to law one with another. WHY DO YOU NOT RATHER TAKE WRONG? Why do you not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?

What Paul is saying **IS, IT IS** better to accept the wrong that a brother has done against you, than to go to law before the unbelievers, described here in *1Corinthians*, as the **UNJUST**. We are to turn **ALL** of our cares over to our heavenly Father and let Him settle the situation. The bible teaches us that Elohim **IS VERY JUST**, and **IF** we can actually learn to surrender our wills to His, and surrender our problems to Him, *rather than seek a remedy in the courts of the unjust*, Elohim **WILL EXALT US** and our reward will be given to us in His timing, because of our surrendered obedient heart. This type of attitude, this surrendered attitude **IS** totally contrary to the way of the world, and **IF** you were to dare to tell people that this is what you live by, you would most certainly be laughed at, by most people, and, some might even think that you are insane. However this is what Yahweh wants and expects from every believer; He says that it is better to be wronged and accept it, and turn it over to Him, than to seek revenge and compensation in the courts of the **UNJUST**. This is a very difficult concept to accept, but I can assure you my friends **THAT THAT IS INDEED THE WILL OF ELOHIM.**

Let me ask you a question. Is it easy for you to turn your will over to Elohim once you have been cheated or offended by a brother, and let Elohim deal with the situation, or is it easier to seek revenge and somehow seek punishment for the person that has harmed or offended you? If you are honest with yourself, you will say that **IT IS** easier to seek revenge than to turn the matter over to Elohim and allow Him to take care of the matter, because we don't always see the result of Elohim's actions and they seldom **IF EVER HAPPEN IN THE TIME FRAME THAT WE WANT THEM TO HAPPEN**. Therefore, we, the body of believers today, do indeed go to law before the **UNJUST** and seek satisfaction from the courts where there are judges selected by man and **NOT** Elohim, for those that have somehow wronged us, regardless of whether he is a believing brother or not. We need to change this behaviour, we need to fall on our faces and seek Yahweh's forgiveness for our lack of obedience to His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, we need to repent for the lack of love we have for each other, and, especially our lack of **TRUST** in Yahweh Himself. Messiah said that the world would know us by the love we have for each other. As far as the world **IS** concerned, the houses of Elohim are a laughing stock, for the world believes that the majority of Christians are Hypocrites, they believe that the people that profess to be Christians, are **PEOPLE TEACH ONE THING AND DO ANOTHER**, a place where they can point to and say look at those hypocrites,

these self righteous people, who preach one thing, and then turn around and do the exact opposite.

That is how the world sees religion and religious people today. We are **NOT** known for our love for each other, **BUT** instead, we are known for the bickering and infighting among the vast number of over sixty thousand Christian denominations. We need to learn Yahweh's ways and go back to His ancient Path, His Path of Righteousness that He established from the very Beginning of time, and that is the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life.

Paul chastises them for suing each other in the courts of the land, rather than working it out amongst themselves by having judges from among the believers judge the matter. *Verse 7 Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, **BECAUSE**, you go to law one with another. **WHY** do you not rather take wrong?*

*Paul is saying **WHY** do you not rather *suffer yourselves to be defrauded*? Here Paul is telling us that it would be better to let ourselves be defrauded by a brother, rather than taking him to court, in the courts of the unbelievers. What do you think about that? Is it something that the body of Messiah **IS DOING TODAY? IS IT SOMETHING THAT YOU COULD DO? IF** we have been wronged, or defrauded of money or possessions, **IF** we have been offended, can we honestly say that we customarily turn the problem or the situation over to Elohim, or do we normally take matters in our own hands and seek remedies in the courts of man?*

Now I want you to seriously think about what Paul is saying here, because **IT IS** an extremely important foundational Tenet of the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, the Words of His Torah of Life. According to Yahweh, **IT IS BETTER** to suffer wrong or the offence that your so called believing brother has done to you, than to sue him in the courts of the gentiles, whom Paul and the Word of Elohim call **THE UNJUST COURTS OF MAN**.

Why does our heavenly Father tell us that **IT IS** better for us to lose what our brother has taken from us, **RATHER THAN** take and sue that brother in the courts of the non believers? The answer **IS** quite simple; our heavenly Father wants us **TO BE** so surrendered in loving obedience to Him, that we **TRUST** Him to make things right in our lives, no matter what the circumstances are. He wants us to **TRUST** Him to the level that earthly things, earthly possession no longer have dominion over us, **BUT** that we have dominion over them, and that we can set it all aside, **BECAUSE** our love and **TRUST** in Elohim and the love we have for our brothers and sisters who are created in the image of Elohim is greater than, any and all earthly possessions that we have or will ever have.

*Verse 8 Nay, you do wrong, and defraud, and you do that to your own brethren. 9 **DO YOU NOT KNOW** that the unrighteous **shall NOT inherit the kingdom of Elohim**?*

Here in *verse 8* Paul accuses these Corinthians of doing wrong and defrauding their own brethren, their own flesh and blood. Then Paul gives them a lesson in what it takes to enter and or inherit the kingdom of Elohim.

Paul states very strongly:
DON'T Be deceived:

No fornicators:

Sexually promiscuous people

No idolaters:

Those who have made idols of people, things, or money into gods in their lives and then worship these gods

No adulterers:

Those who continue to break their marriage vows and or cause other people to break their marriage vows without remorse, repentance, and or contrite hearts

No effeminate:

Men who choose to lay with other men

No abusers of themselves:

No one that defiles himself, or hurts himself physically or who hate themselves

No thieves:

Anyone that habitually steals from other people

No covetous:

No one who maliciously wants to own other people's possessions, and is jealous of them that have many possessions

No drunkards:

No one that is a habitual alcoholic

No revilers:

No one that is constantly partying and not caring about the more important things in life, such as the Word of Elohim.

No extortioners:

No one who tries to get possessions and or money by threatening other people with physical harm unless they turn over those possession to them

NONE of the people that habitually do these things mentioned above, ***SHALL INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF ELOHIM.***

Can you see how important ***IT IS*** for your eternal salvation, ***NOT*** to go against the Word of Elohim? Elohim ***IS JUST*** and ***HE IS MERCIFUL AND LONGSUFFERING, BUT*** He does have limits, and He has delineated some of those limitations above. Therefore let us ***NOT*** put Him to the test, but instead let us learn to willingly and lovingly surrender our hearts to our heavenly Father in total loving obedience.

Next Paul tells these Corinthians that the character traits mentioned above is exactly what they were like before they came to know and obey the Word of Elohim. That my friends is the state that I was in, before I surrendered my whole heart, mind soul and strength over to the Living Torah, Yahweh's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions made flesh, Yeshua our Messiah. ***And such WERE some of YOU:*** that is *fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, abusers of themselves, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, and extortioners*

But according to Paul, these Corinthians have been transformed and are now washed and sanctified, because they have accepted the Living Word of Elohim as their Master and Saviour.

But now you are washed,

Now you are sanctified,

Now you are justified in the name of Messiah Yeshua, and by the Spirit of our Elohim.

Can you see that ***IT IS*** the Living Word of Elohim that washes us and sanctifies us, ***WHEN*** we willingly choose to surrender our hearts, minds, souls and strength to His, in loving surrendered obedience to His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life?

Next, we have the word ***ALL***. In Scripture this word has many people confused. For example when Yahweh said that He would destroy ***ALL*** life on earth in the flood, He did ***NOT*** mean all life; He meant that He would destroy ***ALL*** life that He designated to destroy. The same applies here, when Paul says, that everything is lawful to him. What he means is that all things that Elohim has designated as lawful are lawful for Paul. It is obvious that Paul does not mean that he can now commit murder, or steal, or covet, or become a fornicator, etc. In other words, Paul cannot break the Torah of Yahweh, because that would be ***SIN***, and, ***IF*** Paul were to continue in that ***SIN***, ***THEN*** according to his own words, he could ***NOT*** inherit the Kingdom of Elohim, *1John 3:4 Whosoever commits SIN transgresses also the Torah (Law): for SIN IS the transgression of the Torah (Law).*

Verse 12 All things are lawful unto me, (all things that Yahweh has designated as lawful, ARE lawful for Paul) BUT ALL THINGS ARE NOT EXPEDIENT: all things are lawful for me, BUT I WILL NOT be brought under the power of any.

Yahweh has established in the Words of His Torah of Life, the manner that He wants all people to walk, and Messiah confirmed that, when He said, seek first the kingdom of Elohim and His righteousness, and then, ***ALL*** these other things will be added onto you; therefore when Paul says *All things are lawful to me, but I will not be brought under the power of any*; what do you think he means? Paul is telling us that sometimes some of the things that our heavenly Father has said are lawful for us can and do control our lives. For example a person can be eating what Yahweh has called food, ***BUT*** then have the food control him rather than him control the food; and this is true of many things that are lawful according to Yahweh's Word, we need to all things in moderation.

Paul emphatically states in *verse 13 Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: BUT Elohim shall destroy both, it (the belly) and them (the meats). Now the body is NOT for fornication, but our bodies belong to and are to be used for the work of the kingdom of Yahweh; and Yahweh, who represents the inerrant and everlasting Word of Elohim, is for the body. 14 And Elohim has both raised up Messiah, and will also raise us up by His own power.*

Our bodies are to be used as vessels for and by Elohim, and ***NOT FOR SIN***. We have been ***BOUGHT*** at a very high price, ***AND*** that price my friends ***IS*** the life of our sinless Lamb, our Messiah, Yahweh's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life made flesh. The promise of Elohim, ***IS*** that He will raise up all those that have given their ***HEART***, mind, soul, strength and body, to the Living Word of the Father, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions made flesh.

Verse 15 Know you not that your bodies are the members of Messiah? Shall I, then take, the members of Messiah, and make them the members of a harlot? Elohim forbid. 16 What then? Do you NOT KNOW that he which IS joined to a harlot IS one body? For two, says He, shall be one flesh. 17 But he that is joined unto Messiah IS ONE SPIRIT.

Paul is emphasizing that our bodies are the temple of Elohim, and, as such, we are to treat our bodies with respect, and **NOT ALLOW SIN** to enter into our minds and our hearts. However, **IF** and when we do **SIN**, we need to repent of that sin, and go to our **ADVOCATE, MESSIAH, WHO WILL SPEAK ON OUR BEHALF, BUT ONLY IF** we willingly repent from that **SIN**. When we do indeed repent of our sin or sins, our Torah transgressions, for Scripture makes it very clear, that Yahweh **is JUST to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness**. That my friends **IS** the Elohim that we serve.

Finally we have an admonition from Paul, which is the very same advice that James gives us in *James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to Elohim. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

Verse 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man does is without the body; but he that commits fornication, actually SINS AGAINST HIS OWN BODY. 19 What? Do you NOT Know that YOUR BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT who is in you, which you have of Elohim, (Ezekiel 36:26-27), and YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN? 20 For you are BOUGHT with a price: therefore glorify Elohim in your body, and in your spirit, which are Elohim's.

There really isn't anything else that I can add to Paul's advice. Our salvation has indeed been purchased by the blood of our Messiah, and according to Scriptures we are His, and no one can take us out of His hands, for we were given to Him by the Father, but, because of our free will, **WE**, of our own volition, can willingly choose to walk away from Messiah's sacrifice, which offers us eternal life, and the privilege of becoming the bride Messiah, in the kingdom of Elohim, and, if and when, we choose that path, we will be lost forever, for on judgement day we will be sent to our second death in the lake of Fire, and there is no coming back from that death, for it is forever. Let us therefore heed Paul's and James' advice and let us truly learn to **SUBMIT to Elohim, RESIST the devil, resist SIN, resist the urge to transgress the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father** and when we make the conscious choice, **THEN** we can be assured, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that the devil **WILL INDEED FLEE FROM US**, for there is no room for the likes of the devil in the kingdom of Elohim. Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם, Shalom Aleykem. Amein!