# Refraining from Lawsuits among Believers

1 Corinthians 6:1-8

# Matthew 18:15-17

" Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

## Matthew 18:21-22

- Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"
- Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

#### Don't take other believers to court:

 Seek the help of other believers to settle disputes (1 Cor 6:1-3)

#### Luke 6:27-28

But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.

#### Luke 6:29-31

"To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold *your* tunic either. Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back. And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

### Luke 6:35-36

"But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

## Luke 12:58-59

"When you go with your adversary to the magistrate, make every effort along the way to settle with him, lest he drag you to the judge, the judge deliver you to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison. I tell you, you shall not depart from there till you have paid the very last mite."

#### Revelation 20:4

And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

#### Don't take other believers to court:

- Seek the help of other believers to settle disputes (1 Cor 6:1-3)
- It is embarrassing to have to go to the civil authorities to settle a dispute with another believer (1 Cor 6:4-6)
- Suffer harm (1 Cor 6:7)
- Don't mistreat other believers (1 Cor 6:8)

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