





Western Cultures = Justice



right/wrong



right = good, wrong = evil


Eastern Cultures = Honour



honour/shame



**honour builds status,
shame subtracts status**

A still from a courtroom drama. In the foreground, a man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit and tie, sits in a grey upholstered chair, looking off to the side with a serious expression. Behind him, an older man with thinning hair, wearing a grey suit and patterned tie, sits in a similar chair, also looking off to the side. His right hand is raised in a fist. In the background, other people are visible but out of focus. The setting appears to be a courtroom with wood paneling and a desk with papers in the foreground.

**Status gained
at the expense
of fellow
believers**



**⁷ The very fact that
you have lawsuits
among you means
you have been
completely
defeated already.
Why not rather be
wronged? Why not
rather be cheated?**



1 Cor 1:18-19

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."



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Why not rather be
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Winning is Losing...

⁸ Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers and sisters.



if anyone is
in Christ,
**he is a
new
creation**

2 Corinthians 5:17

**This Is Not Who
You Are Anymore...**

**¹¹ And that is what some
of you were. But you were
washed, you were
sanctified, you were
justified in the name of
the Lord Jesus Christ and
by the Spirit of our God.**

I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE

IT'S A RERUN



God Created Covenant People...

- **Passover Lamb.**
- **Rescued from slavery.**
- **Gathered at Mt Sinai.**
- **Given new laws.**
- **Theocratic Kingdom.**



if anyone is
in Christ,
**he is a
new
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2 Corinthians 5:17

God's Covenant People

- **New life.**
- **New identity.**
- **New Master.**
- **New Ways.**

A person with long, straight, reddish-brown hair is seen from the back, looking out over a landscape. They are wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt under a pinkish-red vest. The background features a blue sky with white clouds, a rainbow on the right side, and a distant town or city visible on a hillside.

Being God's Covenant People

- Learn to talk it out.

Matthew 18:15-20



Being God's Covenant People

- Learn to talk it out.

Matthew 18:15-20

**"²⁰For where two or three
gather in my name, there
am I with them."**



Being God's Covenant People

- Learn to talk it out.
- Forgive them.

'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. (Mat 18:32-35)



Being God's Covenant People

- Learn to talk it out.
- Forgive them.

“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” (Mat 18:32-35)



Being God's Covenant People

- Learn to talk it out.
- Forgive them.
- Forget about being right!

Western Culture = justice
Eastern Culture = Honour
God's Culture = Grace



Being God's Covenant People

- Learn to talk it out.
- Forgive them.
- Forget about being right!

John 13:35

³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

What Would Paul Say To Us Today?

1. Hear the Gospel Jesus preached.



Kingdom of God is about covenant relationship.



Salvation through Jesus is the way into the kingdom.

What Would Paul Say To Us Today?

1. Hear the Gospel Jesus preached.
2. Live out your new identity.



New King/Master = New Ways