



A Practical Guide **to the Righting of Wrongs**

Introduction: Before we consider the people involved in the ways that the Scriptures say that wrongs should be righted, we will give some definitions for clarification.

The offender – the one who has done wrong.

The offended – the person who has been wronged.

The observing brother – the Christian who sees a brother sinning.

Confession – the verbal acknowledgement that one has done wrong according to God's standards.

Restitution – the act of restoring, or making good (as far as possible) all damage that has been caused in this wrong.

Repentance – Godly sorrow for a wrong that results in action according to God given procedures and a return to God and His ways.

Faith – the acceptance of God's ways as the only one for Christian living and conduct.

I. Basic goals and principles in the righting of wrongs.

A. Basic goals.

1. To restore all damaged relationships.
2. To involve the minimum number of people.
3. To examine ourselves and see where and why we have come up short of God's best and to correct the causes so that it will not happen again.

B. Basic principles.

1. The Christian who first becomes aware of a wrong has the responsibility to initiate and carry out God's given procedures in taking care of it till it has reached a satisfactory completion.
2. The time element involved. One ought to proceed as quickly as possible within the framework of God given procedures.
3. If you are not sure what to do, seek the counsel of a spiritual elder -- but do not use any names.

II. God given procedures for righting wrong.

III.