



Jesus: Our Advocate

BY: Chris Harper, AD

“But if anyone does sin we have an ADVOCATE with the Father- Jesus Christ, the Righteous One” – 1 John 2:1 (emphasis added)

Jesus has many titles (Counselor, Messiah, Light, Bread, Truth, Deliverer), and the bible has numerous references to the nature and name of Christ Jesus. Though

all vastly important, there is one I find deep comfort in when I read or hear it spoken: Advocate. Jesus is called the Advocate, our Advocate. The Greek rendering of the word advocate is “Parakletos”: translated, parakletos is the one that “comes to our defense”. In ancient courts when someone was accused of a misdeed, often, from the watching crowd a fellow countrymen would “rise” to the defense of his brethren,

testifying to the character and good nature of the accused. Today in our modern courts, this term is still referenced and now represents itself as the “defense team”. In Matt Maher’s new song *Lord I Need You*, Matt sings a verse that speaks to the power and need of our wonderful advocate: “*Christ, my one defense, my righteousness, O’*

God how I need you...” If I may add, O’ how great is our need! Perhaps a better way of reading 1 John 2:1 is that “because we have/will sin we have an advocate” - the curse of sin is inevitable. I am reminded of John Newton, the author of the hymn *Amazing Grace*. When someone questioned Newton about his understanding of God, Newton said he knew two things for sure: 1) I am a great sinner and 2) God is a

Upcoming events



1/23 – V Wrestling at Jeffersonville, 6 p.m.

1/23 – MS B & G at Lanesville, 6 p.m.

1/23 - G V at Springs Valley, 6 p.m.

1/24 – B JV/V at Borden, 6 p.m. tip

1/25 – Elementary Basketball, 9 a.m.

1/25 – B JV/V vs. West Washington, 6 p.m. tip

1/27 – G V at Medora, 6 p.m. tip

1/30 – B JV/V vs. Providence, 6 p.m. tip

1/31 – Elementary Basketball, 9 a.m.

1/31 – G JV/V vs. Henryville, 4:30 p.m. tip

1/31 - B JV/V vs. Paoli, 6 p.m. tip

great God. John Wesley, commenting on 1 John 2:1 states:

"We have for our advocate, not a mean person, but him of whom it was said, "This is my beloved son." Not a guilty person, who stands in need of pardon for himself; but Jesus Christ the righteous; not a mere petitioner, who relies purely upon liberality, but one that has merited, fully merited, whatever he asks."

The righteous son of God stands as our advocate. Yet, his defense is uncanny. Unlike our justice system today,

where one is paid to plead our innocence, Christ, our defense, stands before God declaring our guilt while proclaiming His innocence. Christ our righteousness, quietly, victoriously, triumphantly reminds our Father, the Judge of all nations, that He paid the price upon the cross. Satan, our accuser, who stands before God daily, reminding God of our sin, is silenced as he opens his mouth to speak (Rev. 12:10). Silenced by the glorious Lamb who says, "Though you stand accused I suffered for that... I paid for

that... That one is on me..." Christ Jesus truly is our one defense, our righteousness.

I do not know where you stand in the court room of Judgment today, but know this, the Father has sent for you a pardon. "That who-so ever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Romans 10:13)." Saved from troubles, saved from hell, saved from yourself, no matter your position we have an Advocate in Christ Jesus.

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