

HAULED INTO COURT

Rev. 12:10

1 John 1:8 - 2:2

Introduction:

- Have you ever been brought to court and had to have an attorney? (Describe who is there)
- Did you know that **every day, constantly**, every believer's name is brought up on charges in court?

I. SATAN ACCUSES BELIEVERS CONSTANTLY BEFORE GOD (Rev. 12:10)

1. Satan has access to the presence of Almighty God today.
 - Remember Job? (Job 1:6-12 2:1-7)
 - Jesus warned Peter that Satan wanted him (Lk. 22:31)
2. Satan prosecutes believers constantly before God.
 - He takes the sins of believers and throws them in God's face. (Name some....)
 - He points out every failure of every believer (name some).
 - He reminds God :
 - that the death of Jesus was useless and wasted, it was not worth the price for such people as believers.
 - that believers are hypocrites and don't really love God or His Son Jesus.
 - that believers could care less about God and His Son Jesus, for if they did, they would obey God and not sin.
 - that the believer is not worth all the pain and hurt.

II. BELIEVERS (WE) ARE SINNERS (1 Jn. 1:8, 10)

1. We hardly pay any attention to sin. It is so much a part of human life:
 - people mistreat others, criticize, backbite, gossip, tear one another apart, are cold, indifferent, withdrawn, selfish (children as well as adults).
 - people lie, deceive, steal, cheat, commit all sorts of sexual immorality - dress in a manner to attract sexually the opposite sex, promiscuity, rape, assault, murder.
 - A list of sins and shortcomings in life that could fill a book.
2. We are sinners! (Ro. 3:23: *"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."*).
 - We fail to dwell on the things of God, but rather upon evil things.
 - We think impure and wrong thoughts.
 - We act unlovingly and are mean to others.
 - We act impatient and abuse others.
 - We act selfish and steal.
 - We live more for self and the world than for God.
3. If anyone says or thinks he/she is not a sinner, God says that person is a **liar**. (v.8)
4. Satan is right about believers! Everything he says about believers **is true!**

III. BELIEVERS HAVE AN ADVOCATE IN HEAVEN (1 Jn. 2:1, 2)

1. Satan is the **prosecutor** in heaven, NOT JESUS! He constantly brings the believer's crimes (sins) before Almighty God. (Name some...)
2. Jesus is the believer's **defense**, legal representative. Every single sin Satan charges the believer with, Jesus answers on the believer's behalf. However, **Jesus does not plead the believer's:**
 - reputation
 - good works
 - Not Guilty!
 - personal righteousness
 - has been as good as could be
3. Jesus pleads the fact that the sins of the believer have already been paid for (name some sins.....) by:
 - His own sacrificial death
 - His own righteousness
 - All demands of God's holy and righteous laws have been met and the penalties have been paid...**THE BELIEVER OWES NOTHING!**
4. Jesus' defense covers **every believer at all times** without regard to the believer's understanding or cooperating in any way.
5. Jesus' defense of believers is never asked for, begged for, or petitioned for in any way. **It is Free** to the believer. Another part of the believer's eternal salvation.
6. Jesus' defense of believers is so complete and perfect that His title is "**Jesus Christ, the Righteous.**"
7. The judge, Almighty God, **always** rules in favor of the defense on the basis of the death of His Son.

CONCLUSION

1. Satan is right about believers! Sinners, Criminals, Law Breakers, Hypocrites, etc.
2. Jesus thinks believers are worth His sacrifice and defense.
3. **Jesus has never lost a case!**
4. Almighty God **always** rules in favor of the believer. No debt to pay. The believer is **Free!**
5. However, none of this does anyone any good **unless** one is a **believer in Jesus Christ.**
6. Is Jesus Christ Lord of your life? Have you accepted His death, burial and resurrection as fact?
 - Without Jesus to defend you, you are damned, doomed and separated from God. If you die in this condition, you will have no hope of ever having eternal life in the place Jesus is preparing for believers. What do you say to that?