

## THE HEAVENLY DEFENSE ATTORNEY

### 1 John 1:8-2:2, Revelation 12:10

**Introduction:** Just about every one is familiar with a courtroom scene, either from personal experience or from watching television programs. There is the judge, the defendant and his/her attorney, then there is the prosecutor, the jury and then in most instances, the observers. We know the routine, where the case is presented to the judge and then the two "sides" present their case - the defendant and the prosecutor. There is a "heavenly" court, there is a "heavenly" judge, Satan is the prosecutor, the Christian is the defendant, and the Lord Jesus is the attorney for the Christian.

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

1. Satan has access to the presence of God at all times.
  - Consider Job and his situation - (*Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7*)
  - Then Jesus warned Peter that Satan desired to have him - (*Luke 22:31*)
2. Satan prosecutes believers constantly before God.
  - He takes the sins of believers and throws them in God's face.
  - He points out every failure of every believer.
  - He reminds God that:
    - the death of Jesus was useless and wasted, that it was not worth the price for such people as believers.
    - believers are hypocrites and don't really love God or Jesus.
    - believers could care less about God and Jesus, for if they did, they would obey God and not sin.
    - the believer is not worth all the pain, hurt and trouble.

### II. BELIEVERS ARE INDEED SINNERS JUST AS SATAN STATES (*1 John 1:8, 10*)

1. As everybody else does, believers pay little attention to sin most of the time for sin is so much a part of everyday life.
  - People mistreat others, criticize, backbite, gossip, tear one another apart, are cold, indifferent, withdrawn, and selfish.
  - People lie, deceive, steal, cheat, commit all sorts of sexual immorality, dress in a manner to attract sexually the opposite sex, promiscuity, rape, assault and murder.
  - The list of sins and shortcomings in a person's life could fill a book.
2. WE ARE SINNERS! (*Romans 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, sinful 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 any person says or thinks that 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!

## **II. BELIEVERS HAVE A DEFENSE ATTORNEY IN HEAVEN (*1 John 2:1-2*)**

1. Satan is the "prosecutor" in heaven - NOT JESUS! - Satan constantly brings the believer's crimes (sins) before God.
2. JESUS is the believer's defense attorney, 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 case on the believer's:
  - reputation - good works - plea of Not Guilty - personal righteousness - that he/she has been good as could he/she could have been.
3. Jesus pleads the fact that the sins of the believer have already been paid for by:
  - HIS own sacrificial death
  - HIS own righteousness..
  - That all demands of God's holy and righteous laws have been met and the penalties have been paid, therefore 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 and that is 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, Jesus.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. Satan is right about believers, for we are 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 he/she is a believer in Jesus Christ.
6. So, is Jesus Christ Lord of your life? Have you accepted Him as your savior? If not, you are doomed.