

## Advocate

January 8, 2025

John 14:6; I John 2:1

No. 1

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Jesus has many roles and titles.

He is our:

- High Priest
- Savior
- Lord
- Provider
- And much much more



But

Did you ever think of Him as your lawyer?

In our time together, we will see Jesus as our Advocate – one who is a professional in the field of law.

John introduces us to Him in:

*I Jn 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;*

“Advocate” *parakletos* – intercessor

Same word used for the Holy Spirit

Jesus said in;

**Jn 14:16** *I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, (Advocate) that He may be with you forever;*

In its Biblical or spiritual meaning, advocacy represent Divine enablement and assistance.

As we just saw,

Two members of the Godhead are recognized as Advocates to believers in Christ.

### **The Ministry of Advocacy of Jesus Christ**

#### 1. His Earthly Ministry

**Jn 14:16** *I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, (Advocate) that He may be with you forever;*

Jesus is saying that His own ministry was one of advocacy and when He leaves, He will send One just like Him. (Holy Spirit)

“another” *allos* – of like kind

Parakletos was used for legal assistant, pleader, advocate, one who pleads another's cause

Rom 8:26 of the Holy Spirit

*In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;*

Examples of His advocacy:

Jn 8:10 Jesus said to the woman caught in adultery

*"Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?"*

*v.11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more."]*

Mt 19:13 for children

*Then some children were brought to Him so that He might lay His hands on them and pray; and the disciples rebuked them.*

*v.14 But Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

Lu 9 the disciples told Jesus some Samaritans would not receive them and they wanted to call fire down and burn them up.

*v.55 But He turned and rebuked them, [and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of;*

*v.56 for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them."]* And they went on to another village.

So we see Jesus as the Advocate to His people but not only His people, but to those outside of Judaism as well.

## 2. His Heavenly Ministry

As legal representative in the court of Heaven, Jesus now functions as the Christian's Advocate or defender. (Defense attorney)

As we saw previously;

*I Jn 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;*

*v.2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.*

v.1 He is our Defender but never our prosecutor

Satan is the prosecutor in heaven:

Rev 12:10 *Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.*

Not only is Jesus our Defender;  
v.2 He is our "propitiation" (atonement,) Through His sacrifice, He paid our debt and pleased God. There is one who assumes there is no specific cure through Christ's advocacy for the believer's sin. He says;  
"The saved one who has sinned must be dismissed from his saved estate because of that sin."  
This may be true were it not for the Advocacy of Christ in Heaven defending our case.  
I.e.  
When Satan presents our sin before God, Jesus presents His blood. And God accepts the death of His Son in place of our own death.

This had earned Him the title:  
I Jn 2:1 *...And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;*

Peter said;  
I Peter 3:18 *For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;*  
Satan is not lying that we are guilty.  
But Jesus, as our Advocate, has claimed our innocence and as our Propitiation, has paid our debt.

Finally;

3 general uses of the word Advocate:

1. A legal advocate, (lawyer) which Christ is now in Heaven,
2. An intercessor which Christ and the Holy Spirit are, (Parakletos)
3. A general helper which Christ was while on the earth and which the Holy Spirit is throughout the Church Age.

Remember;

*Jn 14:16 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper,  
(Advocate) that He may be with you forever;*

There is never any place for the believer to feel he or she is not accepted by God.

For we have an Advocate, with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous.

*NEXT TIME*

*"Jesus Is Our Righteousness"*