

JESUS, OUR ADVOCATE

I John 1:5 – 2:2

June 28, 2020

Introduction:

- Human advocacy _____ whether in the courthouse or on the streets.

“justice denied anywhere diminishes justice everywhere” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Context of I John:

I. “The Elder,” (John) confronts division within a congregation

- a. Generally, it focused on the nature and implications of _____.

II. Reading and understanding the repeated focus by John on Dualism

- a. Dualism is the view that the world is divided into two opposing and conflicting _____.

• Life and death Love and hate Truth and error Light and darkness

b. THREE OBSERVATIONS:

- John’s dualism retains the standard that the only _____ light, goodness and truth is God (1:5)
- Believers can be in the light because they _____ themselves with God, who is light, rather than they themselves being perfect light
- Just as every aspect of a Christian’s life is not unambiguously _____, neither is the world absolutely _____ and devoid of any truth, goodness, or beauty.

Primary Text:

I. Overall observations:

- a. SIX “if” statements in response to the message that **God is light**
- b. THREE _____ – vs. 1:6, 8, and 10 – false conclusions
- c. THREE _____ – vs. 1:7, 9, and 2:1 – theological counterclaim

- _____ the idea that since God is light, his children are perfect light as well
- _____ the importance of the atoning work of Christ for the sinner

II. These statements emphasize two clear perspectives → _____ vs. _____

III. Verse-by-verse observations:

- a. **vs. 1:5** -- God is light. There is no darkness in him.
- b. **vs. 1:6-7** -- Light and Darkness are incompatible → **vs 6 positions me as a** _____
- c. **vs. 1:8-9** -- Sin must be confessed, not denied → **vs 8 positions me as far from the truth and believing untruths** _____ **myself**
 - Confession is good because it is acknowledgement...
 - that I have personally sinned against God
 - that God is the _____ standard of light, truth, and righteousness and I have fallen _____ of it

- of our dependence toward God
- of my desire to turn to God and be _____ to His character

d. **vs. 1:10-2:2** – Jesus intercedes for us → ***Vs 10 ramps up the allegations to their highest point yet in which I am now confrontationally _____ God of lies (Rom. 3:23, Psalm 103:3)***

- Our Advocate is “with the Father.” That small word “with” is important as it means near, toward or _____. Jesus is always facing the Father. His fellowship is never broken.

Jesus, Our Advocate

I. **The Holy Spirit is God's Advocate on earth with men, while Christ is man's Advocate in heaven with the Father** (John 14:16; 14:26; 15:26; 16:17; Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34)

II. **Parakletos comes from “para” meaning beside and “kletos” meaning to call.**

- It’s translated in the ESV as either advocate and _____.

III. **Advocate – courtroom imagery:**

- _____ is the judge – always judges rightly (James 4:12)
- _____ is the prosecution – wants to convict you and me and see us condemned (I Peter 5:8, Revelation 12:10)
- _____ is your defense lawyer...your advocate
- Jesus does not plead our _____ for we are guilty. Nor does he plead our _____ to overcome our guilt, for we have nothing to offer to gain forgiveness.
 - Jesus is both the advocate (2:1) and the atoning sacrifice/propitiation (2:2). He is the one who is pleading and the _____ that he points to is Himself.
 - The idea of intercession and advocacy are strongly linked roles that Jesus plays (Romans 8:26, 34)

IV. **Helper --- This is who Jesus referred to when he spoke of the Holy Spirit who would come after him.**

- He could advocate for us by sticking to the _____, but his gentle and loving heart also shines through as he advocates on our behalf.
- Consider the reality that Jesus advocates not on a _____ level, but experientially (Hebrews 4:15)
- He stands ready to comfort where Satan wants to condemn what Jesus has already defeated.
 - Hear his voice advocating on your behalf...speaking **about** you and speaking **to** you.

Conclusion:

1. Is Jesus _____ Advocate today?
2. If he is, is it your habit to quickly _____ sin and return to fellowship with the Father through his advocacy?
3. How can you _____ Jesus Christ in your life and in your prayers this week as you recognize your righteousness in Him is secure because the One who purchased your position with His own blood is also your Advocate?

I Corinthians 1:30-31 – *And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”*