

Jesus Our Advocate

(1 John 2:1-2)

Four things Jesus our Advocate says:

1) 'Leave it behind'

'My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin'

(1 Jn.2:1)



Charles Spurgeon

'The Christian no longer loves sin. It is the object of his sternest horror. He no longer regards it as a mere trifle, plays with it, or talks of it with unconcern. He looks upon it as a deadly serpent whose very shadow is to be avoided. He would no more venture voluntarily to put its cup to his lip than a man would drink poison who had once almost lost his life through it. Sin is dejected in the Christian's heart, though it is not ejected. Sin may enter the heart and fight for dominion, but it cannot sit upon the throne.'

'For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need'

(Heb.4:15-16)

2) 'Leave it to me'

'And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous'

(1 Jn.2:1)

**The word advocate is a translation
of the Greek word *paraklētos***

para = alongside
kaleo = to call

**An advocate is a person called
alongside to help us, especially
before a judge in a court of law**

Just imagine what we might say:

- **'I didn't do it'**
- **'I did do it, but I'm sorry. I won't do it again'**
- **'I'm good most of the time'**
- **'It's because of my upbringing, environment, biological make-up...'**

These are appeals for mercy. But this is a court of law and justice must be upheld

'And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous'

Jesus deals with it on the basis of righteousness. How?

'And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins'
(1 Jn.2:2)

'Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law'

(Rom.3:31)

**He doesn't forgive us on the basis of
mercy but on the basis of
righteousness**

***'If we confess our sins, He is faithful
and just to forgive us our sins and
to cleanse us from all unrighteousness'
(1 Jn.1:9)***

**God does not forgive us on the
basis of our confession but on the
basis of His righteousness**

***'...to demonstrate at the present
time His righteousness, that He
might be just and the justifier of
the one who has faith in Jesus'***

(Rom.3:26)

***'I write to you, little children,
because your sins are forgiven you for
His name's sake'***

(1 Jn.2:12)

3) 'Leave her alone'

Why do we need an Advocate with the Father when Jesus' death has secured our forgiveness and righteousness?

Because there is an accuser who wants to bring us into condemnation

'Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down"'

(Rev.12:10)

***'Who shall bring a charge against
God's elect? It is God who justifies.
Who is he who condemns? It
is Christ who died, and further more
is also risen, who is even at the right
hand of God, who also makes
intercession for us'
(Rom.8:33-34)***

**Satan seeks to condemn us, and even
uses others for that purpose**

**'Slanderer' is from *diabolos* (the
devil) meaning to falsely accuse with
the purpose of creating negative
feelings about that person**

When Stephen was being martyred he saw his Advocate

'But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"'
(Acts 7:55-56)

**The Holy Spirit is also our *parakletos*;
'another Helper'**

The difference?

One is in heaven and the other on earth

**The One in heaven is our Advocate, the
One on earth our Comforter**

When Jesus began His heavenly ministry as our Advocate, the Holy Spirit began His ministry on earth

'This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear'

(Acts 2:32-33)

4) 'Leave it no longer'

'For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son... For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man'
(Jn.5:22,26-27)

'And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead'
(Acts 10:42)

'He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead'
(Acts 17:31)