

We Have An Advocate 1John 2 Verse 2

1Jo 2:1 "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments."

Advocate is from the Greek word *parakletos*, (pronounced: par-ak'-lay-tos) and means: *an intercessor, consoler, comforter*.

Propitiation means *atonement, one who atones*.

Here are the four other passages that use the word Comforter, which has the exact same meaning as Advocate.

- **Joh 14:16 "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;"** Here we have God the Son telling his people that he will pray to God the Father, who will send another Comforter (advocate) to take his place here in time, when he ascends back to the eternal throne of God the Father. God the Son (advocate) tells us that God the Holy Spirit (advocate) will be with God the Father's people forever. We are told we have two eternal advocates; we have an advocate in this world, God the Holy Spirit who is eternal, and an advocate in the eternal heaven, God the Son who is eternal.
- **Joh 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."** Here we have the promise of God the Father sending God the Holy Ghost, the teacher, who will remind us of all that God the Son has said unto us. If we are to be reminded, we first need to know something to be reminded of, wherefore, read the bible so you have knowledge of what God has said.
- **Joh 15:26 "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:"** Here we have the promise of the God the Holy Spirit testifying to us of God the Son. Christ is revealed from the scriptures.
- **Joh 16:7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."** Here we have God the Son, incarnate, telling his disciples that he will be crucified, he will be buried, he will be resurrected from the dead, he will ascend back to his rightful place on the throne of God the Father, at his right hand, and that God the Son will send God the Comforter (advocate) unto them. This principle can be applied to all the born-again sons of God.

We can find much comfort in believing the promises of God the Son as found in scripture. However, I point out Jesus said; one of the purposes of the Comforter was to **"call to our remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."** If you do not read and study, know, the King James bible, how are you going to know what Jesus has said unto you? If you do not know what the bible teaches that Jesus has said, you are going to miss a lot of blessings, which could have been brought to your remembrance.

Now, let us look at the first definition given to us for advocate, which is *intercessor*, which is found in one place in scripture in: **Isa 59:16 "And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him."** Intercessor is from the Hebrew word *paga'* (pronounced: paw-gah') and means: *to come (betwixt), to intreat*.

Isa 59:1-3; 1 ¶ Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness."

Who is Isaiah writing to? Israel, who has backslidden and forgot God and turned to idolatry. Isaiah is telling Israel; God is still able to save you. God can still hear your prayers for deliverance from your enemy. But there is a reason that he is not responding to your prayers, and it is your sin of turning to idolatry.

Did you notice that it was your iniquities, sins, which caused the separation from God? This is why; we must recognize that we are sinners. If you do not know you are a sinner, you do not understand that you are separated from God, and that you need to be restored to fellowship with God.

God who is holy and pure, and cannot abide even the thought of sin, will not attend to you while you are blatantly living in sin. This was true in the Old Testament times and is still true today. Wherefore, this establishes the need of an intercessor as it is defined, to come betwixt an offended God and offending man. One who can remove the breach between us and God, which can only be done by and through Christ Jesus.

Isa 59:4 "None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. 5 They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper."

Isaiah is declaring to Israel; you have completely forsaken the pathway of righteousness. You no longer seek after the truth. You speak lies which breed sin, and as a spider spins webs to catch prey to feed upon, your lies are a web of deceit, and if any are caught therein, they shall do no better than to bring forth more lies and deception. When we depart from God and turn to our own way, we are doing the same thing Israel did. Simply put; Isaiah is telling Israel; your idol is yourself, because you have placed your will ahead of God's will. The same is true for us today.

Isa 59:6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands. 7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. 8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.

Consider, what is the purpose of the spider's web. It is to captivate. What happens when something is caught in the spider web? The spider comes quickly, before the captured can break free, and spins more web around the victim until it is firmly entangled and cannot escape. Then what does the spider do? The spider then sucks all the life out of the victim.

Isaiah tells Israel; webs do not make garments, wherefore, you have no covering to hide your sin. He tells them; your works of sin will not cover your body nor hide your sins from God. He tells them; their ways are continually evil, and they do not know the peace they once had, as a nation of people who were under the protecting hand of Almighty God. God tells us the same thing today.

This is the intent of Satan and his minions in our lives today. They spin webs of lies, and if we are not well versed in "***thus saith the Lord***," we will become entangled therein. Understand, the devil is not seeking to catch prey he already has. He is seeking those who are children of God, desiring them to become his victims, so he may suck the spiritual life out of them. We understand that he cannot remove your eternal life and eternal forgiveness of sin from the finished work of Christ, but he can certainly destroy your joy of God's salvation.

Isa 59:9 ¶ Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. 10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men. 11 We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves: we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us. 12 For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them; 13 In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. 14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. 15 Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment.

Isaiah tells Israel; there is no seeking of the truth and of God, wherefore, we are not being judged by God because we have forsaken him. God has departed from us and left us to walk in the light of the world, which is the darkness of the light of the devil. Because God has departed from us, we have no ***intercessor*** to plead for us. All we have is the testimony of our own sins which rise, as a mountain before us, and block our vision of God. In

our present condition, there is no way that we shall ever be saved from ourselves and our sins. However, there is hope. God is displeased that there is no judgment, and he will correct this by the work of his own hand.

Isa 59:16 ¶ And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him. 17 For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke. 18 According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompence to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompence. 19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him. 20 And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD. 21 As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and forever."

Isaiah tells Israel; God saw the need to send an *intercessor* who would bring judgment. Wherefore, he is going to send Christ, who is the only source of salvation to God's people. God fulfilled the prophesy in **Isa 59:20 "And the Redeemer shall come to Zion,"** with the coming of Jesus in incarnation.

Isaiah says to Israel; Christ will come in his own righteousness, and Christ will deliver all of God's people from their sins. When he comes, Christ will also bring forth the garments of vengeance, against all who do not the truth, and who defy and deny God. We shall see this eternally fulfilled with the second coming of Christ at the end of time.

Isaiah testifies that all that turn to God, and seek after him, will be found of him. Why will they turn to God and seek after him? **Isa 59:21 "As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and forever."** God says that my people will turn to me when I put my Spirit upon them.

God tells us today that we are saved from our sins, and our idolatry, by the gift of salvation by grace. When this is accomplished, you have had the words of God put in your mouth, and since the gift is eternal life, my words shall be always in your mouths, and the mouths of **"nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed."** Notice, **"thy seed's seed."** God did not say your children, but his own children, who are bought and redeemed by Christ Jesus. The seed is Jesus Christ, and those given to him by God the Father to save are the seed's seed.

We trust that this helps us to understand; we have an advocate in heaven as seen in our opening text: **1Jo 2:1 "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."** The **"whole world"** is the seed's seed. The nation of people for whom Christ died; that shall be born-again; and finally conformed to the image of Christ in the eternity.

Wherefore, we keep the commandments of our advocate, as seen in: **1Jo 2:3 "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments."** Which is evidence to us that we are indeed sons of God.

Remember, the work of eternal forgiveness of sins is completed, because when Jesus ascended back to heaven he was seated at the right hand of God on the throne, seen in: **Heb 10:12 "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God; 13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. 14 For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified. 15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, 16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."**

However, our text says that we have an advocate, in the present tense, which directs us to when Stephen was being stoned to death in: **Ac 7:55-60; 55 "But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. 57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, 58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. 59 And they**

stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. 60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep."

Understand, though our sins are forgiven eternally if we are indeed children of God, yet here in time, we need our advocate to give us the strength to endure and hold out faithful until the end. Stephen needed to see Christ in heaven to strengthen his faith. Stephen needed to see Christ in heaven, so he could remember that Jesus laid down his life on our behalf, and that Jesus prayed **Lu 23:34 "Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."** that he might follow the example of his redeemer and advocate. Can you say that when your enemies are throwing stones at you? What about when your friends throw stones? Can you forgive them, with the same forgiveness that Christ has forgiven you?

We are given the King James bible to encourage us to follow the example of our redeemer and our advocate (our *intercessor*) Christ Jesus. Remember the definition of intercessor? "*to come (betwixt), to intreat.*" We need to know that our eternal forgiveness of sins is accomplished by the finished work of our **Intercessor** and **Advocate**, who by his shed blood has come between God, who is offended by our sin, and God's people, the sinners, and hath reconciled us to God, through his finished work of the eternal forgiveness of sin, and our eternal redemption.

Let us turn to **La 3:58; 52 "Mine enemies chased me sore, like a bird, without cause. 53 They have cut off my life in the dungeon, and cast a stone upon me. 54 Waters flowed over mine head; then I said, I am cut off. 55 ¶ I called upon thy name, O LORD, out of the low dungeon. 56 Thou hast heard my voice: hide not thine ear at my breathing, at my cry. 57 Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon thee: thou saidst, Fear not. 58 O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life."** Do you see that Jeremiah believed that he had an **advocate**? Out of the dungeon, in which he has been imprisoned, he cries out to God in the past tense "**thou hast pleaded**," fully believing that God had already redeemed him, and made him a fit subject for heaven. His is an announcement of his steadfast belief in the power of God and in God's salvation.

In conclusion; because of salvation by the grace of God, and the finished work of our Saviour and King, in the lowest ebbs and trials of life; We too, can with Jeremiah bear witness to the finished work of Jesus Christ. Though, we have a constant adversary, who is continually spinning webs of lies to be stumbling blocks in our lives as Christians. We know, we have an **advocate (Comforter)** to stand with us in time, who has said to us, as God said to Jeremiah, "**Fear not**" that we might be strengthened to hold out faithful until the end. Thank you, King Jesus, for standing up for us in time, and in eternity. Hallelujah! Amen!