

December 4th – Our Advocate with the Father

*“My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.” (1 John 2:1-2)*

God’s perfect will for us is that we will not sin, but sadly we succumb to temptation every day. We should never use our fallen condition as an excuse for sin – “the devil made me do it.” No, the Bible is very clear – “But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed” (James 1:14). If we want to know who to blame for our sins, we simply need to look in the mirror. Each day, it is our job to deny ourselves, take up the cross, and follow our Savior Jesus (Luke 9:23).

The good news is that our God has made a provision for our weakness and wickedness. “If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father.” What is an advocate? Legally speaking, an advocate is someone who pleads the cause of another before a judge – someone who comes to the defense of another. So then, the Bible is very clear that we have Someone who comes to our defense before the Heavenly Father. Praise the Lord!

Who is our Advocate? “Jesus Christ the righteous.” Only Jesus can advocate for fallen sinners! Why? Because His very name means salvation (Yeshua). His name also reminds us that He is the anointed Messiah of God (Christ). And this verse calls Him “the righteous” – because He was at all points tempted but never fell into sin (Heb. 4:15). This Jesus, our Advocate, is the “propitiation for our sins and...also for the whole world.” He advocates for all those who trust in Him!