

The Two Advocates

Secular and Divine

By Pastor Art Watkins

1John 2:1-2: 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: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins* of the whole world.

Verse 1 says; ***we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous***. An advocate is the same as a lawyer or counselor. Jesus Christ is called a counselor in Isaiah 9:6 and here an advocate.

There are two types of advocates; secular and divine. There are many secular advocates, but only one divine advocate, Jesus Christ the righteous. The methods they use are totally different. As a matter of fact, they are completely opposite. If a secular advocate used the same methods of Jesus Christ, he would lose every case. A secular advocate would never do for his clients what Jesus does for his. But what is amazing is that the clients of Jesus Christ our advocate all go free, but the clients of secular advocates do not all go free.

Secular Advocates

*Always claims his clients are innocent. He never admits his clients are guilty even though he may know they are. He maintains his clients innocence throughout the trial and objects to any accusation the prosecutor makes that they are guilty.

*He defends his client even though he may know he is guilty. He uses many tactics to convince the jury that his client did not commit the crime he is charged with. Some have great skills of convincing juries that their clients are innocent even though they are really guilty. There are many criminals walking around today as free men because they had a lawyer who convinced a jury that they were innocent even though they were really guilty.

*He maneuvers and schemes to keep his clients free from any punishment. His job is to convince the jury his client is innocent so he can walk out of the courtroom free from any punishment even though they may be guilty and deserving of punishment. Many men today are free when they ought to

be behind bars because they had a smart lawyer who got them off without punishment. One of the best is Gerald Spence who is a semi-retired American trial lawyer. He is a member of the American Trial Lawyers Hall of Fame. Spence has never lost a criminal case either as a prosecutor or a defense attorney, and has not lost a civil case since 1969.

*If he sees he can't convince the jury that his client is innocent, he will plea bargain with the prosecutor to settle for a lesser sentence or fine for his client. Some have great skills in convincing prosecutors to let his clients off with lesser punishment than they really deserve. Their clients get a slap on the wrist when they ought to be serving serious jail time. 97 per cent of all civil cases are settled out of court.

*He charges all his clients. He does not work for free. Some have become famous and rich defending clients because of their skills of getting their clients off with either no punishment or lesser punishment than they deserve. For years Al Capone murdered many men and deserved to die but he was never convicted of murder. He was convicted of tax evasion. He had smart lawyers who were paid a lot of money to keep him from going to the electric chair. The mafia has a team of lawyers who are paid huge amounts of money to keep them out of prison.

A trial in America will be at least \$2,000 per day in fees and costs, and add to that cost at least 40 hours of attorney time to prepare for trial, easily totaling more than \$20,000.00. So, you'll end up paying \$40,000 whether you win or lose at trial.

The richest lawyers in America are Richard Scruggs whose *net worth is \$1.7 billion. Richard got a \$246 billion settlement from the big four tobacco companies in 1998.* Joe Jamail whose net worth is *\$1.7 billion.* William Lerach whose net worth is *\$900 million.* Bill Neukom whose net worth is *\$850 million.* Judge Judy whose net worth is *\$150 million.*

*Once he finishes defending his clients it does not matter to him what they do after the trial is over. He has no love or affection for his clients. He does what he does for his clients for his own personal gain and profit. Their personal lives are of no interest to him. In fact he profits from their crimes for that gives him another chance to defend them and charge them.

Christ our Advocate

*He admits his clients are all guilty. He does not say his clients are innocent when he knows they are all guilty, for that is lying which he never does. He does not object to any accusation of guilt the law makes against his clients. In fact, he agrees with the accusations of the law that his clients are guilty. He knows that all of his clients are sinners worthy of death and damnation in hell. He knows that none of his clients are righteous no, not one and that they are all gone out of the way, and they are all together become unprofitable and that there is none that doeth good, no, not one. These are the indictments that God and the law make against his clients and he agrees with them and never denies it.

*He does not defend his client's sins and crimes. Secular advocates defend their clients and even lie about them to make them appear to be innocent but not Christ our advocate. He knows his clients are all guilty and he does not maneuver his way around the law to convince anyone that they are innocent. That would be deceitful which he is not. In fact, he condemns the sins and crimes of his clients himself. He takes the side of the law against his clients. His clients should never expect him to defend or excuse their sins and crimes or lead them to lie about their sins and crimes. He even rebukes and reproves his clients if they try to excuse or justify their sins and crimes.

*He does not try to get the law and the judge to let his clients go free without punishment. Instead he did something that no secular advocate would ever do; he allowed the law to punish him for all of his client's sins and crimes. He allowed the law to charge him for their sins and crimes and to judge him for their crimes as if he committed them instead of them and to punish him for their crimes. No secular advocate would ever do that. His clients are set free, not because they are innocent for they are all guilty. They are set free from punishment for their advocate paid the fine for their crimes. They did the crime but he paid their fine. All of his clients go free and forgiven of their crimes because their advocate paid the penalty for their crimes and sins.

*He has an advantage over all advocates; his Father is the judge. He sits at his right hand day and night to remind him and the law that his death satisfied all of the law's and God's just demands against his client's sins and crimes. This keeps all of his clients secure from eternal punishment in hell. Hebrews 9:24 says: **For Christ is not entered into the holy places**

made with hands, *which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us*: Christ appears before God as our eternal advocate in heaven. He is there to plead for our salvation; to present the merits of his blood as a permanent reason we should be saved.

*He ever lives to intercede for his clients because he loves all of his clients. He is very concerned about how they live their lives after they are forgiven of their crimes and sins. Once they are forgiven of their crimes and sins he admonishes them to go and sin no more. And if they sin after they are forgiven he promises to cleanse them from the defilement of their sin if they will come to him and confess their sin and ask for cleansing.

*His serves his clients freely. He does not charge his clients for anything he does for them, including the payment he made for their sins and crimes. His clients never receive a bill for his service. He serves them because he loves them. Instead of getting rich off of his clients, he makes his clients rich. He will not accept any payment for the service he renders. He turns down any offer his clients make, for his service is done by grace without any works done by his clients. In fact if his clients insist on paying him for what he did for them he rejects them. He does it this way so that he gets all the glory and praise and his clients get none.

*Jesus Christ is the advocate for both the lost and saved. If you are lost and need forgiveness of sin Jesus Christ is the advocate you need. If you are a Christian and need cleansing from sin Jesus Christ is the advocate you need. If you are lost and need forgiveness of sins then call on him and confess your sins to him and you will be forgiven. If you are saved and need cleansing from the defilement of sin call on him and confess your sins to him and you will be cleansed. 1 John 1:9

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