



# *Campbell Chapel*

2019; CAMPBELL CHAPEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
SERMON TRANSCRIPTION

## Our Advocate—Jesus Christ the Righteous

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

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1 John 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:

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

The apostle John is writing. Do you remember who John was. He was one of the sons Zebedee. He had a brother, older brother by the name of James. We know that they were fishermen. We know that the Lord came along one day, and called them and they followed Him. We know that the apostle John was one of three disciples that got to see a lot of things that some of the others did not. We know that James, John, and Peter, on different occasions; Jesus would take them when He would leave the others a little way off—but they got to see some things that the others did not see. Not only that but we know that as we read the Bible we know that John wrote the gospel of John. We also know that he writes the epistles of John. We also know that he wrote the book of Revelation.

I thought as I studied on this lesson this week. If you go back to chapter 1, verse 10; the last verse right prior to what I just read to you; he made this statement.

1 John 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

I got to thinking about John and why he wrote what he wrote. As I began to study, I began to think about that evidently there were people here that John was writing to that had the opinion of themselves that they did not sin. The reason I know that is because if that had not been the case then John would not have said what he said here. I think that tells us that John was speaking to people that had an opinion of themselves that they did not sin.

As I thought about that today, the Pharisees had that same kind of attitude about themselves. They were very self-righteous people. Not all of them, but some of them were. There were some good Pharisees. We can read about Nicodemus and we know was. However, there is no doubt in my mind that John is writing to people who thought that they had not sinned. The Bible tells us very plainly that we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. We are all sinners. When we make that statement to some people it offends them. It offends some people when we tell them that you need to be born again because you are a sinner and you have sinned against the Holy God. You need to repent of your sins and make things right with Him. That offends some people. It is sad that it does. However, it doesn't offend some religious people

sometimes. As I said this many times, the greatest opposition that Jesus had all the time He was here was the religious crowd. What He preached uncovered the sin in their life. They did not like that. We know that they ultimately killed Him.

As you look at this lesson, this story; there were some here that had this opinion. They were saying they had never sinned. They say they did not sin. They would say that sin did not affect them.

I want to say something tonight. Apostasy is something that will separate us from the blessing of Almighty God. I don't care whose life it is in. Sin will separate me from the blessing and the favor of Almighty God. Sin will do that. Sin will separate us from the love and the favor of Almighty God. That does not mean that the first time we sin that God is going to cast us into... I'm not saying that. Do you know what happens when we sin? It breaks our fellowship with Almighty God. If that wasn't the case then why would Jesus Christ ever come here and die. If sin did not separate us from Him and His blessing and His favor then why would He have ever had to die? Therefore, we know that it does. We know that sin will separate us from the favor of Almighty God.

Again, there is no doubt in my mind that there were people here that said, I don't ever sin. I live above sin. I think God is going to accept me for who I am, for all my goodness, for all my good works, and all that I do... John wanted these people, and wants us to understand that we all have sinned. We all have sinned. We all need forgiveness from Almighty God. Everyone of us, every person that has ever been born, or ever will be born; we are sinners. We were born into this world in sin. Adam sinned and we took on the sin of Adam when we were born in this world. We know that we are sinners and we need to understand that.

Here is the thing that we want to talk about tonight is this. We know that we are sinners. We know that even after we get saved, there are times in our life that we do sin. We know that we mess up. We know that we are not perfect. We know that we get in a mess sometimes. The greatest thing about all of that is this. There is a remedy for that. We have help. God did not save us and set us out here and say just do the best you can. Just go ahead and live as you want to live and everything is going to be alright. God did not do that.

When God saved us, when Jesus died on Calvary; He died not only to forgive my sins, but He also is going to forgive my sins past, present, and future; if I just ask Him to. Amen! We need to understand that we are sinners—that is the thought. We are sinners in the sight of a Holy God. We are sinners and we need Him in this life.

John wanted them to understand that they are sinners. He wants these people to understand how serious it was in what they were saying. They were saying they had not sinned. John said that if they were saying that and believe that then you are making God a liar because God said that we are all sinners. We all have sinned. When we say that we have not sinned, when we say that we live above sin, when we say that we

don't have any sin and never committed any sin; then we are saying that God, as holy and righteous as He is—He is a liar. That is what we are saying.

Listen. I don't want to take that trip. Do you? I'm not tell God He is a liar because He knows a whole lot more than I know. Do know what He does? He has us in the hallow of His hand. We don't want to make any accusations like that. We don't want to tell God we have never sinned, or that we are not sinners because that is what we are. We are sinners. In or very best state, we are just people that have sinned, and God has forgiven us. That is the best we are. Amen! If God did not forgive us then we wouldn't be saved. We would be lost today. We would be on our way to a lake of fire today. When people say they have never sinned, when people says that they don't sin, when people says that they live above sin then do you know what we are really saying? Hey, God you really don't know what you are talking about. You really don't know what you are talking about. Do you know what? God does know what He is talking about. He knows me through and through. He knows me better than I know myself. He knows you better than you know yourself. He knows where we are at. He knows what we are doing. He knows this too; why we do what we do. God knows the intent of our heart. God knows the very intent and the very intentions of why we do what we do. God knows that.

Listen. If we say we have not sinned then we make God a liar and His Word is not in us.

John is talking, no doubt, to people who were claiming to be Christian people that said they had been saved, they had been born again. They are saying we received Him. We are following Him. However, John says, you guys are saying you don't need forgiveness, and you don't sin, and you have never sinned, and you think God is just going to overlook your sin; you are making God a liar and His Word is not in you.

That is serious stuff folks. There is a warning there. There is a very strong warning for you and me.

What I first read to you, John says here in chapter 2, verse 1...

1 John 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:

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

He calls them little children. He is looking at them as little children. John is their pastor. John, when he is writing these words; He is probably a very aged man. He is looking at these people here that have been saved. Probably a lot of them have been saved under his ministry that he had pastored, that he had helped along life's journey. He looks at them as little children. He looks at them as his little children. The reason that is so important is that he wants to make sure they get this right. He wants them to make sure that what he is saying here that they actually get right.

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“...these things I write unto you that you sin not.” He is giving them some instruction. He is telling them some things here to help them to live in a way not to sin habitually. Not to sin every day. Not to go out every day and live in sin every day, break God’s law, break God’s commandments. He is teaching them some things here that will help them to live in a way that they don’t do that. If he did not do that.

Listen. I thought why would he do that? John was human. John knew that these folks would have times in their life that they would sin. Do you know what John wasn’t going to do? John wasn’t going to say just go and do the best you can. John wasn’t going to say just go ahead and try your hardest. He wasn’t going to say that. Do you know what John knew? John knew that there was a holy God that was sitting on the throne in heaven that hated sin. He wasn’t going to tell us to do the best we can. He wasn’t going to tell us to sin a little bit and it won’t hurt anything. John wasn’t going to do that. John said hey, I don’t want you to sin. That is the attitude of Almighty God. God doesn’t want us to sin. True! After we get saved, God doesn’t want us to sin. Before we get saved, God doesn’t want us to sin. He did not want us to do that.

John gave some instruction here. Fellows I’m writing some things to you that you don’t sin. That you don’t live a life of sin. That you don’t live in a way that you are losing the favor of God upon your life and the blessing of God upon your life. Don’t live in a way that the fellowship is broken.

Someone read the other night here in church; John 13. It talks about Jesus washing the disciples’ feet. If you read down through there do you know what it will tell us? Jesus made the statement if I don’t wash your feet, I will have no part with you. That word part in the Greek means participation. If He does not cleanse us—in other words, if we are living in sin, if our lives are dirty and filthy before Him; then you know what? He has no part with us. He does not bless our lives. We don’t have any favor of God upon our lives when we are living in sin. Sin separates us from the fellowship of Almighty God. Sin does that. I don’t care who you are. I don’t care how much you know. Sin will separate you from the fellowship of Almighty God. Amen! He is not hanging us on a string and the first time we mess up, He is going to drop us into a lake of fire. Don’t think that. Because God does not do that.

I’m going to tell you something. When God sees in my life and your life; He sees sin in my life and your life, He takes that seriously. Do you know what He is going to do? He is going to deal with it. He is going to deal with it in a great way.

John wanted these people to understand that hey I am writing this stuff to you that you don’t sin. I don’t want you to sin. I don’t want you to sin in the sight of a Holy God. God

is righteous. God is holy. God is just. I do not want you to sin in the sight of Almighty God.

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The word *if* here when you look at it—is actually says, since men do sin. He says here that we have an advocate with the Father. Since we sin, when people sin, he says that you don't have to throw up your hands and quit. When you mess up, when you sin and when we do things that defiles our conscience before Almighty God and we feel horrible on the inside. We know that the fellowship we had with God is no longer there. The sweetness that we had with God is no longer there. His presence that was flooding our lives is no longer there. When we were praying, He does not meet with us like He used to. He is no longer there. We have lost that. John wants us to understand that we don't have to throw up our hands and quit.

Everybody listening to me tonight; there have been times in your life that you have done that. There have been times in your life that you have messed up. I don't care how long you have been saved. I don't care how much you know. I don't care how many scriptures you can quote. There have been times in your life that you absolutely—and my life—that we have blown completely up. Amen! That is a good one. I know everybody sitting in these seats tonight, everybody listening to me wherever you are at; I know we are human and I know there are times that we absolutely blow plumb up. If that was the end of it, then we would be in trouble.

In other words, if we did not have an advocate, if we did not have someone that would forgive us then we would be in a world of trouble. So many times, we sin and mess up. We get in a mess. We are embarrassed. That is a big thing. Sin will embarrass you. Sin embarrasses Christians. When we sin sometimes we think, hey, I don't want to go on. People know this. I am ashamed of what I have done.

Here is the thing. God knows all about you. God knows everything there is about you. The great thing with God is this. When we sin, we have an advocate. The word advocate means a lawyer. Actually, the word in the Greek means someone that will come along your side to help you in a time of need. Someone that will willingly come along you side and help you in your time of need.

Here is the thing. We have an advocate. We have someone that when we sin, do you know what He will do? He will plead our case for us. He will plead our case before Holy God and righteous God. You can't do that yourself. We cannot approach God the Father. The access we have to God the Father is through our mediator, or our high priest, Jesus Christ. That is how we access God the Father. I have no access to Him except I go through Jesus Christ and you don't either. The access we have to God the

Father is through Jesus Christ. That is the Bible. If you try to go any other way, we don't get there. Jesus Christ is our advocate. When we are standing guilty before Almighty God; do you know what Jesus will do? He will come and plead our case. He will come as we stand before Almighty God—we are guilty. Get this. Jesus will never plead us not guilty. If we are standing before Almighty God and we have sinned; He will never say, these guys did not sin. He will never plead our case on the basis that we have been good because we have not. He will never plead our case because we have all kinds of good works. Lord they have done all this stuff, so therefore just forgive them. He will never do that. However, when He stands before God the Father and we are standing beside of Him, He pleads our case. Do you know what He does? This is what I died for. He tells the Father, this is one that I died for. I shed my precious blood.

The propitiation means sacrifice.

Do you know what He does? He pleads the case to my Heavenly Father and yours, this is one I died for when I died at Calvary. He belongs to me. I know he sinned. I know he messed up. I know he did all of that.

Listen. When I died on the cross, I took the shame. I paid the penalty. I took all of the condemnation and the judgement that should be on him; lay it on me. That is what He pleads, when He stands before Almighty God.

Here is the great thing about that. He knows us. Do you think God knows you? Do you think He knows all about you? Do you think that when He stands before Almighty God and we stand before Almighty God, as plead our case, as He pleads our case—we are not going to plead our case. We don't have anything to say. He is not going to listen to us. However, do you know what He does listen to. He listens to His Son. His Son died at Calvary to forgive us of our sins.

Our sin, singular, when we are born again, our sins plural, after we got saved; Jesus Christ blood will cleanse us from all of our sin. Amen!

Do you know what that should make us? That should make us leap for joy. Do you know what is going to happen? If it did not happen today, or yesterday, or maybe tomorrow; there is going to be a time somewhere, or many times that you are going to need Him to plead your case.

This fellow, many times in life I needed Jesus to plead my case because I've sinned. I've messed up. Sometimes I did it with my eyes wide open. Sometimes, I have been tripped up by satan and did not know what was happening. Still yet, it is the same thing. We sinned against a holy God. We have an advocate, an attorney; we have someone that will plead our case before the throne of Almighty God. Father this is one I died for. When I died at Calvary and shed my precious blood, I died for this one. I died to forgive his sin. This one belongs to me. Please forgive them. Do you know what happens? We are forgiven. Do you know what God does? He wipes the slate clean and forgives that sin and we move on.

That is the great thing about our God. That is what I want you to understand about our God. Let's don't ever say that we have not sinned. Let's don't be like the Pharisees and be self-righteous and say, we have never sinned. Because if we get there, there is no forgiveness from unbelief. There is no forgiveness of self-righteousness. If I say I am good enough, there is no forgiveness for that. You say you are good enough, there is no forgiveness for that. There is no forgiveness when I say, I don't believe. There is none there. However, when I say I believe, when I humble myself before Almighty God and recognize that I have sinned against a holy God and I am on my way to a lake of fire and when self-righteousness is gone out the window. When I ask God to forgive me of my sin; He forgives me.

Do you know what? I say this a lot here. I say it a lot in life. I want—something has worked in my life for a long time and I want it to work in your life. Don't ever think that you are above sin. Don't ever think that you don't need God's forgiveness every day. You do. Every day of your life, you need God's forgiveness. God's cleansing every day. No. We may not go out and murder somebody. However, we live in a world where murder goes on everywhere, all around us. Rape, and all kinds of wars, fightings, lying's, and gossip; everywhere we go, all of that goes on. Do you know what? We live in a world that sometimes that is us. sometimes we get caught up in that.

Listen. If we take the attitude that I have not sinned, if we take the attitude that I don't need cleansing, if we take the attitude that I am living above that, if we take the attitude that God is going to accept me as I am and what I am doing is good enough; then it is not going to end well for you.

Listen. We have an advocate with the Father. Jesus Christ the righteous; He is the only One that can plead our case before God the Father. Do you know why? Because He is the righteous One. He is the only that has ever been righteous. He is the only One that has ever been true righteousness. He is the only One. God imputes the righteousness unto you and I when we are saved—absolutely. However, that does not make us perfect people. He forgives us, and cleanses us; but He does not make us perfect people. He is perfect. He is sinless. He is the one that never sinned. He is the One that came here and lived among men and never sinned not one time. Again, He died at Calvary. He satisfied, He is the propitiation; He satisfied the Holy demands, the righteous demands of a Holy God. When He died at Calvary, He satisfied God's demands as far as, sin is concerned. That is really what the word propitiation means.

It means sacrifice. It means a covering.

Jesus, when He died; He satisfied God the Father's holy law as pertaining to my forgiveness and your forgiveness.

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You see, when Jesus died and shed His precious blood on that day, all those many years ago, His blood was shed, not only will forgive you and me and cleanse us today after we are saved. However, His blood will cleanse the whole world. Anyone that will say yes to Jesus Christ, anyone that will say, Lord, I am going to come and follow you. I want you to forgive me. I want you to cleanse me. I want to be your child. I want to be your child. Do you know what God will do? God will forgive you. God will cleanse you from the whole world. Anybody that will say yes, anybody that will believe Him. Do you know what He will do? He will forgive you. His blood is sufficient. His blood is powerful enough. It does not matter what color you are. It does not matter what race you are. It does not matter from where you come in life and how much sin you committed; His blood will cleanse you. His blood will forgive you, if you will just trust Him. We have an advocate. We have a lawyer. He is the One that makes the sacrifice that will please and appease a holy and righteous God. That sacrifice that offering was His blood at Calvary. Nothing else. He will plead my case and your case. He will do that if we will just trust Him.

Come and pray—