



In Heaven's Courtroom

1 John 2:1

- *Question: When was the last time you needed to call in an expert?*

We have an accuser

Meaning of the title "devil" (Rev. 12:10)

Access to heaven (Rev. 12:10)

A case study (Job 1:6-12, 2:1-9)

- *Question: What should our response be to Satan's accusation?*

For the time being, God has allowed Satan the accuser limited access to heaven. In the book of Job, we see Satan stand before God and accuse a righteous man named Job, claiming that Job is only faithful because God had blessed him abundantly (Job 1:9–10). Satan posits that, if Job is put to the test, he would eventually turn from God and forsake his righteous life (verse 11; 2:4–5). In His omniscience, God knows that Job will remain steadfast, and He gives Satan the accuser permission to test Job.

Satan the accuser desires to remind believers of their sin and their unworthiness of a place in God's family and in this way sow doubt into their hearts and minds. Satan wants to make Christians fear for their salvation and forget God's love and faithfulness. Satan says, "Look at your sinfulness"; God says, "Look to Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith" (gotquestions.org).

We have an Advocate

Our sin leads to accusations

Our Savior speaks on our behalf (1 John 2:1)

Our Savior's work is enough (1 John 2:2)

Our response is: Recognition, Repentance and Confession

- *Question: While living in a world that denies or excuses sin, how can we respond to sin in our own lives?*

The Advocate

An advocate is a person who comes to our aid or pleads our case to a judge. Advocates offer support, strength, and counsel and intercede for us when necessary. The Bible says that Jesus is an Advocate for those who've put their trust in Him: "My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). In other verses, Jesus calls the Holy Spirit our Advocate (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7). The English word advocate has been translated from the Greek word *parakleton*, which means "helper, adviser, or counselor" (gotquestions.org).