

1 John 2:1-6—Jesus: Our Advocate

- **Intro**
 - Dad getting thrown out of a ballgame
 - Gospel Primer:
 - God gave the Law not as our means of being saved but to SHOW US that we are sinners in need of saving. That is why he gave the sacrificial system on the back end of it.
 - Law = Diagnosis.....Gospel = Cure
 - The Law crushes and kills us and then the gospel comes and raises us from the dead.
 - v.1—“My little Children”
 - These are hard realities and John understands that and is leading us delicately through the process.
- **Jesus is Our Advocate (v.1)**
 - v.1—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.
 - **2 Headed Law Monster:**
 - v.1—I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.
 - v.3—And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.
 - 1 Gospel Hero:
 - v.1—we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous.
 - John uses this word for Advocate in his gospel to refer to the Holy Spirit—this is the ONLY use of the word in reference to Jesus:
 - We have an Advocate in our hearts—the Holy Spirit
 - We have an Advocate in heaven—Jesus Christ
 - WHEN WE SEE THE MONSTER OF THE LAW CRASHING DOWN ON US, DEMANDING OBEDIENCE AND THEN SEE CHRIST COME IN, SATISFYING IT WITH PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS, OUR HEARTS BURST INTO GLAD-HEARTED OBEDIENCE.
 - Romans 6—Paul reminds us of this exact thing. It is the experience of radical grace, not the mere demanding of obedience, that produces the most zealous obedience!
- **Jesus is Our Atonement (v.2)**
 - v.2—He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
 - John is establishing the basis upon which Christ can be our Advocate—his perfect life and death in our place that SATISFIED the wrath of God.
 - PROPITIATION = THE SATISFACTION OF WRATH.
 - **Jesus IS our propitiation**
 - 1 John 1:2—Jesus is our LIFE
 - 1 John 1:5—God is LIGHT
 - 1 John 2:2—Jesus is our PROPITIATION
 - What does Jesus plead as our Advocate? Does he plead our innocence?
 - NO! Jesus pleads and puts forth his PERFECT and RIGHTEOUS record on our behalf!
 - In the face of our sin he declares, PAID FOR! FINISHED! He is mine...She is mine!
- **Jesus is Our Source of Obedience (v.3-6)**
 - v.3-6—And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

- 2 Realities that Shape Our Understanding of Obedience:
 - KNOWING CHRIST
 - v.3—we have come to KNOW him
 - ABIDING IN CHRIST
 - v.6—whoever says he ABIDES in him.
 - There is a KNOWING and an ABIDING of Christ that GENERATES obedience.
 - What John is NOT holding out to us is an invitation to muscle our way to God.
 - John is NOT landing the weight of assurance of salvation back on US by saying, “be obedient or else!”
- Obedience is the overflow of experiencing gospel grace
 - When we hear the command to obey, John is calling us to look to Jesus.
 - A debilitating lie—thinking that our greatest problems are OUTSIDE of us and our greatest solution is INSIDE of us.
 - A glorious gospel truth—realizing that our greatest problems are INSIDE of us and our greatest solution is OUTSIDE of us.
- STOP GAZING AT YOUR NAVEL AND START GAZING AT CHRIST ON THE CROSS, DYING FOR YOU AND NOW AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER ADVOCATING FOR YOU!