

The Courtroom in Heaven

The God of Order

- **1 Cor. 14:33**, "For God is not a God of disorder or confusion but a God of peace and order"
- Our God is omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent
- He is Sovereign in that He makes the rules, spiritual and natural laws
- God created music, art, science, all kinds of creatures, beauty, consciousness & free will
- God is the author and creator of all that is good, perfect, holy and righteous

Psalms 90:2, "Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."

The Rule of Law

- Spiritual laws that govern the universe were well in place before time began
- It's those laws that keeps the universe and all creation from spinning out of control
- Sin is chaos, disorder and the greatest threat and disruption to all creation- a cancer
- Eventually all evil & Satan's rebellion will be quarantined in the Lake of Fire- all eternity
- Romans 13:1-7 declares that all authorities that exist have been established by God
- The Word of God is the Law of God- commanded, decreed and established forever
- Ps 1:2, "*But his delight is in the law of the Lord & on his law he meditates day and night.*"
- God has bound Himself to His own Word of Law- it's impossible for Him to violate it
- God's laws are based on God's love- Ro. 13:10, "Love does no harm to it's neighbor..."
- As true justice cannot show favoritism neither does our God - Acts 10:34; Ro. 2:11
- If God's word fails, than God fails and ceases to be God and the devil has won
- Mark 13:31, "*Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.*"

Crime and punishment

- We would not know what sin is except through God's laws & commandments- Ro.7:7
- Adam was given a commandment not to eat the forbidden fruit in Genesis 2:16
- Satan used sin (disobeying God's Law) to kidnap mankind- slaves to sin/death- Ro. 6:23
- Ez. 18:4 "*For every living soul belongs to me... the soul who sins is the one who will die.*"
- Sin is disobeying God's Word of Law and is spiritual crime that incurs punishment
- Death is separation from God and to exist in darkness; void of life/love-exiled lake of fire
- **Ro. 3:25**, "*God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.*"
- So what can take away our sins (spiritual crimes)? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!
- Nothing less than a full pardon can grant us access into heaven- can't earn or deserve it!
- **Mark 10:26-27**, "*Who then can be Saved?*" Jesus said, "*With man this is impossible, but*"
- **John 6:28-29**, "*What must we do to do the works God requires? "The Work of God is this: to believe"*

The Court Room in Heaven

- Have you ever noticed how much the Bible uses legal terms throughout the Scriptures
 - o Intercessor/Advocate/Mediator/Justification/Righteousness/Atonement
 - o Remission/Forgiveness/Pardon/ Guilt/Innocence/Condemned /Acquitted
 - o Accuser/Law/Commandments/Judgment/Books/Testimony/Witnesses/Covenant

These are all legal terms and are used in connection with the rule of law that God, the holy and righteous judge follows as the supreme judge of the universe. He does everything by the book, His Word! Did you know that God passes judgment that does not please Him? God created hell for the devil and his angels; not for mankind, who go there by choice- Matthew 25:41. In the future when He sentences lost humanity to the lake of fire for all eternity at the great white throne judgment, there will be no celebrations or joy over it. As much as God loves humanity, He will not pervert His justice on our behalf, nor let us off the hook without justice being served- there is no favoritism or partiality with God.

Ezekiel 33:11, “Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?’”

Romans 3:19

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.

- **Please Read: Daniel 7:9-14**
- In Scripture we get a glimpse into the supreme courtroom of the universe
- First we see the great judge of the universe- God the Father presides over the court
- Notice: “The court was seated and the books were opened” – books of evidence

Malachi 3:16 NKJV, “Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, And the Lord listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the Lord and who meditate on His name.”

Rev 20:12, “The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.”

Matthew 12:36-37, “But I tell you that men will have to give account on the Day of Judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

- As free moral agents we stand on trial for our actions upon earth- we are the defendant
- Unfortunately ignorance is no excuse for breaking the law- **Lk. 12:48; Heb. 9:7**

Whether we realize it or not, we have someone who is against us, the devil or adversary. He is shrewder, craftier, more sharper and cunning than any prosecuting attorney you have ever seen or heard of. He has been building cases against human beings for centuries and he has become very proficient at it.

He knows what buttons to push, what levers to pull. He knows all about our weaknesses and vulnerabilities and what to bring against us in order to get us to talk- an admission of guilt and submission to the works of the enemy. The devil can't just barge on in and wreak havoc in our lives without our permission; we snare ourselves with our own words.

- Pr. 21:23, *"He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity."*
- Pr. 10:19, *"When words are many sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise."*

James 3:2

"We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check."

The devil knows how to bring worry and anxiety (interrogations of the mind) in order get us to crack and say something stupid. To say and do the wrong thing, which is used as evidence against us. The devil's imps (familiar spirits) follow us around with tape recorders so-to-speak night and day, bringing thoughts to our minds and feelings to our body in order to bait and provoke us to sin. And I want you to know that anything we say, can and will be used against us in the high court of heaven- life and death are in the power of the tongue!

Important Point: So why is the devil gathering all this evidence against us? So he can use it against us in court, with the aim that he may have a case in order to get us judged and turned over to him- to gain access to our lives. We really need to understand this, Satan can't just attack God's covenant people at any time he wishes and without reason. The blood of Jesus in the New Covenant protects us, so the devil has to find a legal means to justify gaining access to our lives in order to kill, steal and destroy.

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

The only power Satan has over people is sin, when the sin is removed, Satan's power to afflict and oppress people is taken away. That's why Jesus came! The greatest act of spiritual warfare against the devil was in paying the penalty for our sins! This left Satan without any legal claim to our lives, to kill, steal and destroy.

John 1:29, "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'"

Revelation 12:10-11, "Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: 'Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.'"

- This is why **1 John 1:9** is so critical for Christians
 - o The forgiveness of sins washes away any evidence the devil may have on us
- Walking in love, being quick to forgive and quick to repent is essential to stop the enemy
- Beware of offense and pride- stubbornness is a sure way to get in trouble

Isaiah 54:17, "'No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me,' declares the Lord." *No temptation has ceased you; throne of grace; High Priest*

[Have you considered my servant Job](#)

Let's use a familiar example in the Bible to illustrate the court of the universe in action- Job. Satan came to God to press his rights in order to gain access to Job- to kill, steal & destroy. The devil hates righteous God fearing people, especially rich righteous people- Job was a powerful man of influence for God. Have you ever noticed that every person in the Old Testament who had a covenant with God was extremely wealthy and successful? But that is another topic. God being a righteous judge allowed Satan to have access to Job; in spite of the fact that Job had a covenant with God. It was Job that broke down the hedge, not God. The Lord would never go back on His covenant and give the devil access to Job for no reason!

- **Please Read: Job Chapter 1**

God does not put a hedge of protection and bless everything that an individual has for no reason. Job had a covenant with God which made it legal for God to bless Job's life. All the while Satan being the god of this world system- he can't circumvent it.

In Job 1:8, *“Then the Lord said to Satan, ‘Have you considered my servant Job?’”* The Hebrew literally says, **“Have you set your heart upon my servant Job?”** God was not daggling Job out in front of the devil saying “Come and get him.” Here we see a rare glimpse of the operation of the High Court of Heaven. Satan began to accuse Job and question his commitment and motivation. He began to present a case to God twice- once against his possessions and secondly against his own person. What we see happening here is Job got judged and turned over to the hand of the enemy. The root cause, was that the devil had tempted Job with fear- unfortunately he took the bait. Even though Job had a covenant with God, through fear he opened the door to the devil and undermined that covenant- a word to the wise!

Job 3:25-26, “What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me. I have no peace, no quietness; I have no rest, but only turmoil.”

- Job got into fear over his children and that fear granted the devil access to his life
- Parents take it from Job, the worst thing we can do to our children is to be anxious
- It was fear that kept Israel out of their Promised Land!
- It was fear that resulted in Peter sinking as he walked on water
- Fear is a great thief that steals God’s best from people- invitation to the devil to come in

Job 1:5

“When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would send and have them purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, ‘Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.’ This was Job’s regular custom.”

- Pr. 19:3, *“A man’s own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord.”*
- It’s never God’s fault when bad things happen to good (relative term) people
- Let’s not accuse God of evil; He is not the author of it
- Job insisted upon his innocence and blamed God for his troubles– got reprimanded for it

Job 38:2-3; Job 40:8

The Lord said, “Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.” “Would you discredit my justice? Would you condemn me to justify yourself?”

- But to Job’s credit he never cursed or renounced God- no matter how bad it got

James 5:11, “As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job’s perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.”

Jesus Our Advocate

I also want you to know, as a Christian, you are not without a defense. There has never been an attorney for the defense like this one- Jesus Christ! People talk about the best lawyers that money can buy, Jesus far exceeds them all; and it won't cost you a dime to have Him on your defense! Jesus, our attorney has never lost a case- NEVER!

1 John 2:1-2, "My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate, one who speaks to the Father in our defense — Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world."

Everyone has to choose whether to stand before God for their own defense or appoint a defense attorney, the Lord Jesus Christ to plead their case. Please note, that those who choose to represent themselves will lose 100% of the time. Now, what Job did not have in his covenant with God, we have in the New Covenant- automatically comes with an Advocate!

Job 9:32-33

"God is not a man like me that I might answer him, that we might confront each other in court. If only there were someone to mediate between us, to lay his hand upon us both."

Before a court case even begins the defendant must first make a plea of innocent or guilty to the charges presented- we plead innocence by the blood of Jesus. So when the devil is trying to mess with our life, put sickness off on us, ruin us financially, and oppress us with all kinds of trials, tests and temptations, Jesus is right there to give us legal counsel through the Word of God. The Bible is a legal book-it's God's Will, Word and Law of the New Covenant! So when we take the witness stand of life, Jesus wants us to study the Word in advance, and make it our personal testimony- "It is written!" That's how Jesus defeated the devil when He was tempted in Luke chapter 4. Stick with the counsel of God's Word, don't add to or deviate from it.

It does not matter what the circumstances look like, what we feel, what other people are saying or what the devil is whispering into our ear about how we are going to fail and not make it. Jesus our advocate will tell us, whatever happens hold fast to the confession of God's Word, the Bible is our testimony- just speak the Word! When we sit upon the witness stand and the devil comes up to cross examine us, to pressure us, just stay cool holding fast to the testimony of what God's Word says about us. In light of redemption and all that Jesus has already done on our behalf, how does God see us? Innocent, not guilty by the blood of Jesus. All of us as Christians are on the witness stand every day of our life. What comes out of our mouths will determine the outcome, whether we side with Jesus and the Word or concede to the devil's lying circumstances and his false accusations.

Hebrews 4:14; 10:23 AMP

Inasmuch then as we have a great High Priest Who has [already] ascended and passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession [of faith in Him]. So let us seize and hold fast and retain without wavering the hope we cherish and confess and our acknowledgement of it, for He Who promised is reliable (sure) and faithful to His word.

The devil will come, and as slick as he is will say, “Now you love the Lord don’t you? Committed to the Lord, because of all He has done for you. But isn’t it true, when the Lord has done so much for you, how miserably you have failed Him. Isn’t it true that you told Him you were going to do something for Him and you didn’t keep your commitment?” Next the devil will play a video for the court and replay what happened, and how we broke our promise. He will rewind it and play it again a few times, just to drive the point home.

What the devil wants to do, is to get us to break under pressure and use examples in an attempt to pour on the condemnation in order to convince us of how unworthy we are. This will keep on until we begin to cave under the pressure and whine, cry, give in and speak those fateful words like, “I know, I am just a sorry Christian, a failure, I will never get this thing right in my life.” In so doing we have condemned ourselves and pleaded guilty through an admission of defeat.

The devil will say, “Because of your many failures and sins, you deserve to be sick, you deserve to be poor, don’t you?” and we all have been guilty of responding, “Yes, I know I do, how can God love me, I mess up so many times. I don’t deserve for God to heal me and bless me in my life or listen to my prayers.” Then the devil looks up and says, “Your honor I rest my case.”

Unfortunately, our Father God has no option, since we have plead guilty, said we deserved it or accepted it in our life as a trial to keep us humble and repentant. God has no option than to bang the gavel and proclaim us guilty according to our own testimony and admission of guilt. Thus allowing our own words to be fulfilled and allow the enemy access to our lives.

Matthew 9:29, *“According to your faith will it be done to you.”* Remember...

Mt. 12:37- For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

Anything we say on this earth, can and will be used against us by the accuser of the brethren, the devil. The good news is, if we will follow the counsel of our Advocate Jesus, to obey His Word, we will win the case every time. Just stay cool; what does the Bible say about our sins?

1 John 1:9-10, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.”

Psalms 103:11-12- For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

- Hebrews 10:17- Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.
- Let’s stay cool in Jesus and maintain our confession of God’s Word- It is written
- Be aware of “False Condemnation” – a sneaky tactic of the enemy to admit defeat

Hebrews 13:12, “And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.”

Are we still condemned and unworthy? Jesus made us worthy, holy and perfect in His righteousness before God for all eternity through His blood- innocent, no sin left. We did not earn this standing with God by our own works- only by the blood of Jesus. So do we deserve healing or to be whipped with sickness, do we deserve to be punished or to be set free, do we deserve condemnation or to be filled with joy and peace? In Jesus we have been justified, so what we deserve is life and that more abundantly, not death- All by His Amazing Grace!

- Like Paul we need to stand up and claim our rights- **Acts 22:24-29; Php. 3:20-21**
- By saying nothing, we are saying, devil you’re right, come on in and walk all over me
- Jesus remained silent to bear our sin so we would not have to- **Isa. 53:7**
- Ps. 107:2, “*Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy*”

Hebrews 9:26, “But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.”

Hebrews 10:10, 22, “And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.”

So when the devil pressures us to confess that we deserve to be punished, plead the blood of Jesus, we confess that we are innocent in Jesus- innocent to all charges and accusations of the devil. That is how we overcome him according to **Revelation 12:9-11**. Standing on the blood of Jesus that cleanses you from all sin, but that is not all or enough to ensure our freedom. The second part is the word of your testimony- that is all Jesus has to work with on our case.

What should our testimony be, speak what the Bible has already declared concerning our situation- we are righteous, holy, justified and sanctified in Jesus. Let the devil spew out all kinds of accusations about our life, just plead the blood and that makes us innocent and as white as snow- the devil can't touch or harm us- Praise God!

1 John 5:18

We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him.

However, when we do claim our innocence, the devil will say, "You rascal you, I have proof that you sinned and messed up!" Then he will pull for that video of those past wrongs, and find it's blank, the blood of Jesus erased it! Desperate, the devil reaches for some pictures and MP3's, but they are blank as well. NO EVIDENCE! You look back at the devil and say, "What video, I don't see anything! I told you I'm innocent, I plead the blood of Jesus, I don't plead a guilty verdict! I am holding onto my testimony of the truth that is in the Word of God!" The devil will keep on trying to get us to contradict the Bible and speak what we see, feel and hear instead of siding with revelation truth. But if we stand our ground and hold fast to our confession of faith, God the Father will say to the devil, "That is enough, give up, you have no case against my child!"

Then our advocate, Jesus will step forward and say, "Your honor, my Father, the accused, my brother, your son has testified that he is innocent of all charges, that he deserves no punishment, no sickness or death. I submit for the court's consideration, exhibit A, My blood on the Mercy Seat in Heaven and My blood is speaking some wonderful things! My blood is speaking innocent, sins paid in full, no guilt, no shame and no oppression from the enemy is allowed!" The Father God will smile and say, "The court has accepted that evidence."

Next your advocate will say, "You have heard the accused, my brother, your son testify, that he does not deserve to be sick, but that by My stripes he is healed. I present before the court for its consideration, Exhibit B, the stripes upon my back." The Father God will smile and say, "The court has accepted that evidence long ago." Finally Jesus will say, "I submit that all charges against this one be dropped, he is innocent and that no judgment from the devil come against him and that no access be allowed by the destroyer to him." The Father will then bang His gavel and proclaim, "This case is closed!"

Hebrews 12:23-24, "You have come to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel."

Hebrews 3:1

Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess.

Hebrews 4:14 NKJV

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

Jesus is continually interceding, legally pleading our case, but He has to have something to work with- the word of our testimony is critical. How many of you know if you stand in any court of law and confess that you are guilty as sin and deserve to be punished, no matter how good your defense attorney is, there is nothing left than to be sentenced and punished. Another way the devil gains entrance in our life is to deceive us into accepting sickness, poverty, depression and other forms of satanic oppression. How does he do that you may ask? Through religious traditions, that the curse is sent from God or allowed by God to teach us something in order to keep us humble. In either case, as much as Jesus wants to deliver us, He can't because of the wrong religious thinking or loose lips to concede defeat and guilt.

Remember, Satan is trying to get us condemned and judged so he can have access to us. He must get the permission- seeks whom he may devour! If we agree with his lies and plead guilty- yes I am sick, yes this trial is from God to teach me something, I accept it. There is nothing Jesus can do for us, so God has to allow the devil to kill, steal and destroy our life. But if we stick to the Bible, the devil has no evidence and no basis for judgment against us.

The Father will bang the gavel and proclaim, "Innocent, all charges against you are dropped!" The Father will throw the case out of court because the devil has nothing on us because the blood of Jesus covered all the evidence and erased it all! The devil will stomp out, but he can't touch us because we are innocent and we agree to stand by our innocence in the blood of Jesus; by making the truth of God's word our testimony! That is how the truth makes us free, by personally identifying with it and making it our very own. The devil can't touch us because he could not get a judgment made against us. This is what happens to believers' everyday of their lives on this earth. The sooner we understand this legal process in the spiritual realm, the sooner we can enter into the experiential reality of God's victory personalized in our lives for us to enjoy.

- Spiritual warfare is a war of words, it's a legal matter as to who wins the case
- Satan disputed with the Michael the archangel over the body of Moses- Jude 9
- Legally angels can only respond when we site God's Word
 - o Dan. 10:12; Ps. 103:20; Jer. 1:12