

Devotional Thoughts :: THE ADVOCATE by Claude Houde

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The Bible describes Satan as the accuser of the brethren. In Revelation 12:10 we read that Satan "accused before our God day and night." Whenever Satan is present in Scripture, someone is being accused. He is there in the form of a tempting snake in Genesis and we see Adam and Eve mutually accusing each other cruelly. The people murmured in the Old Testament, plagues devoured them, and the apostle warns: "These things happened for our teaching, our understanding. Do not murmur as they murmured and were destroyed by the destroyer" (see 1 Corinthians 10:10-11).

"We are not ignorant of his devices" (2 Corinthians 2:11). Peter "accused" the Lord, and Jesus answered him, "Get thee behind me, Satan, you don't realize by what spirit you are speaking" (see Mark 8:33). This spirit of the accuser is real and terribly active in our world today. Husbands accuse wives, teenagers accuse their parents, nations and entire regions of the world are torn apart by one group, nationality, color or clan endlessly accusing and attacking the other. Believers and leaders blame pastors, and ministers complain one to another, "Today's believers are not like they used to be." That is the spirit of the accuser. However, you can choose a different life. You can cry out, "Father, fill me with faith with a revelation and the Spirit of the Advocate."

The Bible teaches that "we have an advocate (a defender, and intercessor) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous and . . . He ever lives to make intercession in our favor" (see 1 John 2:1 and Hebrews 7:25).

We can also be filled with and live in and by a Spirit that prays, intercedes, stands with, loves and forgives. Each day we truly have a choice to make: division or destiny; resentment or restoration; breaking or building; to hurt or to heal; to be bitter or to bless; to release or to be reduced; pettiness or power; my agenda of advancement or His authority; the accuser or the Advocate!