

1 John Lesson 18-Justice, Mercy, and Advocacy: A Study Guide

April 7 2025

Quiz

1. What does the passage argue about the relationship between God's mercy and His justice?
2. According to the source, what is the "wages of sin"?
3. Who is identified as the prosecutor in the "courtroom" analogy?
4. Who is identified as the judge in the "courtroom" analogy?
5. Who is identified as the advocate or defense attorney?
6. According to the source, what must someone do to become a client of the advocate?
7. What is the meaning of the word "propitiation" as used in the passage?
8. How does Isaiah 53 connect with the concept of substitution as discussed in the source?
9. How does 2 Corinthians 5:21 explain the concept of substitution?
10. The source uses an analogy from the Old Testament Passover to illustrate salvation. What is the key parallel drawn?

Quiz Answer Key

1. The source argues that absolute justice must be satisfied at the same time that mercy is given to the guilty. God's mercy does not soften, weaken, or replace His justice.
2. Romans 6:23 states that the wages of sin is death. This is the price for sin.
3. Satan is identified as the prosecutor, who accuses believers before God day and night.
4. The Father (God) is identified as the judge before whom believers stand guilty.
5. Jesus Christ the righteous is identified as the advocate or defense attorney.
6. To become a client of the advocate, one must confess their guilt.

7. Propitiation means satisfier or substitute; Jesus is the one who satisfied God's judgment for our sins.
8. Isaiah 53 describes Jesus as bearing the iniquity of us all, being wounded for our transgressions, and being bruised for our iniquity, illustrating His role as a substitute who took our punishment.
9. 2 Corinthians 5:21 explains that God made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him, meaning Jesus took our punishment.
10. The passage draws a parallel between the blood of the Passover lamb on the doorposts, which saved the Israelites from God's wrath, and the blood of Jesus on the cross, which saves believers from the Father's wrath.

Essay Questions

1. Discuss the tension and resolution between God's justice and His mercy as presented in the source material.
2. Analyze the courtroom analogy used in the source, detailing the roles of the indictment, prosecutor, judge, and advocate, and explain how this analogy illustrates the process of salvation for believers.
3. Explain the concept of substitutionary atonement as presented in the source, drawing on specific scriptural references mentioned (e.g., Isaiah 53, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:24) to support your explanation.
4. How does the source differentiate between God saving us *from* Himself and God saving us *by* Himself? Discuss the significance of this distinction.
5. Explore the role of confession of sin for believers according to the source, and explain how this relates to Jesus's advocacy and God's faithfulness and justice in forgiveness.

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Advocate:** A legal helper or divine defense attorney, specifically referring to Jesus Christ in 1 John 2:1.
- **Indictment:** A formal accusation or charge; in the context of the source, the clear record of a person's sins.
- **Justice:** The quality of being righteous and fair; God's demand that every sin be punished.

- **Mercy:** Compassion or forgiveness shown towards someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm; God's willingness to pardon the guilty.
- **Propitiation:** The act of appeasing or satisfying; in the context of the source, Jesus's work in satisfying God's judgment for our sins, acting as a substitute.
- **Prosecutor:** One who brings charges against another in a court of law; in the source, identified as Satan, who accuses believers before God.
- **Righteousness:** The quality of being morally right or justifiable; God's perfect nature and standard.
- **Substitution:** The act of one person or thing taking the place of another; Jesus's action of taking the punishment for humanity's sins in their place.
- **Wrath of God:** God's intense anger and judgment against sin and sinners.