

RESTORING THE ART OF PLEADING YOUR CASE (Part 3)

The writer of Hebrews carefully painted a picture to contrast the difference between man's approach to the Judge before the cross and after the cross.

Hebrews 12:18-21 NKJV

[18] For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, [19] and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. [20] (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.") [21] And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.")

Compare the Old Covenant picture of fear and dread with our place of entry under the New Covenant of the blood of the Lamb:

Hebrews 12:22-24 NKJV

[22] But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, [23] to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, [24] to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.

The Book of Hebrews describes the dwelling place of God and the beings who dwell there with Him. We are reassured as we realize that when we step before the bench of this Judge, we will be in the company of the worshipping angels and familiar people like Moses, Aaron, Hur, Isaiah, Deborah, Paul, Barnabas, Simon of Cyrene, Mary (the mother of Jesus), Peter (apostle), Corrie Ten Boom, Teresa of Avila, Paul Billheimer, C.S. Lewis, Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, and the Wesley brothers. Do you sense that you would be at home in this place?

Best of all, as we come before the Judge of all to plead our intercessory case, we come to the Advocate, the Merciful One, Jesus Christ the mediator, whose sprinkled blood continually cries out, "Mercy," before the Judge (while the blood of Abel could only cry, "Vengeance!")

When you persistently bring your pleas before the Judge of all in the courtroom of Heaven, the Lord looks upon it as faith. The process of presenting your case and arguments pleases God, and it also helps you understand the need more completely. It moves you in compassion, strengthens your determination, and arms you with a greater depth of holy hunger.

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

July 30, 2025 – The Lost Art of Intercession – James Goll & Myra Ilagan

In the first chapter of Isaiah's prophetic book, God declares, "Come now, and let us reason together..." (Isa. 1:18). This is an invitation to a court hearing where God is pleased to hear our requests, petitions, and pleas.