

Overview :

John closed the first chapter with the admonition that we believers should *confess our sins*. Our old nature will often get the better of us and we will fall into sin repeatedly down here. Disciples will find that the confession of sins is way of overcoming temptation and learning how to conquer sin. This will not make us 'sinless', rather it will help us to sin less.

In chapter 2, John opens with two doctrinal terms : *advocate* and *propitiation*.

The term *advocate* denotes a lawyer who represents his client before a court of law. Christ is able to function as an advocate because of his work of *propitiation*. On the cross at Calvary, Christ's perfect offering of his sinless body satisfied the demands of God's holy law. God in his holiness judged sin at the cross. Christ's atoning work was sufficient to remit all mankind's sins: past, present and future. **Romans 3:25, 1 John 1:7**

Christ is the *propitiation* for the sins of the whole world, **1 John 2:2**.

On the the cross he prayed for the lost. **Isaiah 53:12 Luke 23:34**

But today He is only the *advocate* for believers, i.e. God's *little children*, **1 John 2:1**.
He advocates for us through intercession : His prayer ministry to His Father.

He prays for his church - **John 17:9**

He prays when we are weak - **Luke 22:32**

He prays when we face trials - **Hebrews 7:25**