

Case Dismissed

Zechariah 3:1-10



The Painful Burden of Guilt

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John Clair



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“Church! Why would I ever go there? I was already feeling terrible about myself. They’d just make me feel worse.”

A prostitute, as quoted by Philip Yancey



A Brief Background on Zechariah



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- **Strong admonitions...**
- **Spiritual encouragement...**
- **Future hope and glory...**



The Vision: The Filthy High Priest (3:1-7)



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The assessment—guilty (3:3)

The assurance—purification (3:4-5)



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The accuser—Satan (3:1b)

The advocate—the LORD (3:2)

The assessment—guilty (3:3)

The assurance—purification (3:4-5)

The admonition—obey the Lord (3:6-7)



The Victory: The Final High Priest (3:8-10)



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Portraits of the Coming One (3:8-9a)



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He will be the Stone (3:9a)



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Provisions of the Coming One (3:9b-10)



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He will bring eternal peace
and prosperity (3:10b)



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“My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have 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.” (1 John 2:1-2)



A man with a bruised face and a torn, stained white shirt is kneeling on a dark, textured surface. His eyes are closed, and his hands are pressed against the ground in a gesture of prayer or surrender. The background is a dark, smoky blue. Overlaid on the image is the text:

*When God is your advocate, all charges
against you will be dropped.*





Lessons from God's Courtroom



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God cleanses his people on the basis of his grace, not on the basis of their merit.



Lessons from God's Courtroom

God not only cleanses his people from their sin, but he also gives them his own righteousness.



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Believers live in both joy and humility, for they are “burning sticks snatched from the fire.”



Lessons from God's Courtroom

God doesn't hold your past against you
because he held it against his Son on
the cross.



The Permanent Banishment of Guilt



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The word “guilt” appears in 102 verses in the Old Testament. It appears in only 7 verses in the New Testament. That’s because there’s a cross and an empty tomb between the two testaments!



A man with a bruised face and a torn, stained white shirt is kneeling on a dark, textured surface. His eyes are closed, and his hands are pressed against the ground in a gesture of prayer or surrender. The background is a dark, mottled blue-grey. Overlaid on the image is a quote in a white, italicized serif font.

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