

The Trial Of Your Life

As the Lord has blessed us to see yet another year, may we reflect on His grace and mercy that has ever endured and brought us through. If you were to analyze your spiritual life, what would your summation be as we entertain the "Trial of Our Lives." Upon dying, my time on earth came to the end. The first thing I remember is sitting in the waiting room of a courthouse. The doors opened and I was instructed to come in and have a seat by the defense table. I noticed the 'prosecutor.' He was a villainous looking creature who stared at me. As I sat and looked to my left, there sat My Attorney; a kind and gentle looking being whose appearance seemed so familiar to me, I felt I knew Him. A door flew open and there appeared the Judge. He commanded an awesome presence and I couldn't take my eyes off of Him. As He took His seat, He said, 'Let us begin.' The prosecutor rose and said, 'My name is Satan and I am here to show you why this soul belongs in hell.' He proceeded to tell the lies I told, things I stole, and my pattern of cheating others. Satan told of the horrible perversions that were once in my life and the more he spoke, the further down in my seat I sank. I was so embarrassed that I couldn't look at anyone, as the Devil told of sins that even I had completely forgotten about. As upset as I was at Satan for telling all these things about me, I was equally upset at My Attorney who sat there silently not offering any form of defense. I know I had been guilty of those things, but I had done some good in my life and shouldn't that at least equal out part of the harm I'd done? Satan finished and said, 'This soul belongs in hell, and is guilty of all that I have charged!' My Attorney first asked if He might approach the bench. The Judge allowed this over Satan's objection, and beckoned Him to come forward. As He started walking, I was able to see Him in His full splendor and majesty. I realized why He seemed so familiar; this was Jesus representing me, my Lord and my Savior.

He stopped at the bench and turned to address the court. 'Satan was correct in saying that this soul had sinned; and, yes, the wages of sin is death, and this soul deserves to be punished.' Jesus took a deep breath and turned to the Judge with outstretched arms and proclaimed, 'I died on the cross that this person might have eternal life as they have accepted Me as their Savior, been obedient to The Faith and been added to my Body through baptism, so they are Mine.' My Lord continued with, 'Their name is in the Book of Life, and cannot be removed. I ask not for justice, but rather mercy.' As Jesus sat down, He looked at the Judge and said, 'There is nothing else that needs to be done, I've done it all.'

The Judge rendered: 'This soul is free. The penalty has been paid in full, case dismissed!' As my Lord led me, I heard Satan ranting, 'I won't give up, I will win the next one.' I asked Jesus, 'Have you ever lost a case?' He lovingly smiled and said, 'Everyone that has obediently come to Me has received the same verdict as you, "Paid In Full!"'