God Dropped the Charges

"Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one.

Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us."

Romans 8:33-34

I have many great childhood memories, but one in particular came to mind as I began this article. I was an obedient child for the most part, but I always wanted to state my case when the judge (my mother) told me to remain silent, or there would be consequences for my actions. I continued on one occasion and was about to pay the price for my disobedience. The judge was getting into a position to administer justice, and I began to cry at just the thought of being punished. My sister came out of the blue, yelling to Mama that she was willing to take the punishment that should have rightly been given to me. I didn't receive the punishment for my sin that day because my sister interceded on my behalf, and Mama dropped the charges.

Sisters and brothers, Jesus, our chief intercessor, did the same for those who would come to believe in Him. He knows we are guilty because ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). He took on the penalty for our sins anyway. The Bible tells us in Romans 5:8 that God demonstrated His love to us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. He didn't wait until we got it all together. He died while we remained in our sinful state. That's what justification is all about. We are forgiven and made righteous before God. Because of what Christ did in satisfying the Father's desire for justice (for the wages of sin is death, Romans 6:23), we were found not guilty, even though we were. In other words, it's just as though we never sinned. Jesus paid the ultimate debt for our transgressions, and God dropped the charges! Aren't you glad He did? I am!

Happy Resurrection!

Elder Shirley Freeman