



# HOAW Newsletter

*And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses. Colossians 2:13*

July 2023

HELPING MEN LIVE LIVES OF INTEGRITY AND HONOR

## Removal & Replacement

Dr. Greg Bourgon

When we **receive** Jesus as our Savior, **God forgives all our sins: past, present, and future.**

Forgiveness comes as a total package; **God does not forgive us partially but wholly.**

The believer in Christ can say, **“My future sins are forgiven”** for these reasons:

- **When Jesus died, all of today’s sins were yet future.** Jesus did not die only for the sins of people who lived before Him. He died for the sins of the whole world ([1 John 2:2](#)), including the sins of those who lived after Him.
- From the cross, Jesus said, “It is finished!” ([John 19:30](#)). No other sacrifice would ever be needed.

**Sin—all sin—had been atoned.**

- “We have been justified through faith” ([Romans 5:1](#)). When God **justifies** us, He declares us to be righteous. We still sin, but God’s declaration stands. The fact of our justification argues for the fact that **our future sins are forgiven.**
- [Colossians 2:13](#) And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, **having forgiven us all our trespasses.**

We are saved by grace through faith, and the moment we trust in Christ, we are made right with God. Our sins, including our future sins, were ultimately forgiven and our salvation is permanent.

**Divine forgiveness has two parts; positional (or judicial)**

**forgiveness and relational (or parental) forgiveness.**

**Positional forgiveness (Ephesians 1:6-8)** is given to us upon receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. All our past, present, and future sins are **forgiven on a judicial basis**, meaning that we will not suffer eternal judgment for our sins. **God has taken our sins and blotted them out** because the penalty due for our sin was paid by Christ on the cross once and for all. “Positional forgiveness is obtained by every believer in Christ. In our position as members of the body of Christ, **we have been forgiven of every sin we have ever committed or ever will commit.** The price paid by Christ on the cross has satisfied God’s wrath against sin, and no further sacrifice or payment is necessary. When Jesus said, “It is finished,” He meant it. Our positional forgiveness was obtained then and there.”

**Relational forgiveness (1 John 1:9)** is an ongoing necessity because although forgiveness has been granted positionally our ***relationship with our heavenly Father is broken when we sin.***

One authority describes it this way. "If a son does something wrong to his father—falling short of his expectations or rules—the son has hindered his fellowship with his father. He remains the son of his father (positionally), but the relationship suffers (relationally). Their fellowship will be hindered until the son admits to his father that he has done wrong. It works the same way with God; ***our fellowship with Him is hindered until we confess our sin. When we confess our sin to God, the fellowship is restored. This is relational forgiveness.***"

***The Bible teaches that, after salvation, we continue to sin (1 John 1:8; 2:1).*** We won't reach ***sinless perfection*** this side of glory. The power of sin is broken, but, because we are still flawed humans living in a fallen world, we still at times give in to temptation.

Our future sins, although ultimately forgiven in Christ, should still be confessed to God (1 John 1:9). Unconfessed sin, a sign of a disobedient, stubborn heart, will bring the Father's discipline on His children (Hebrews 12:4–11).

When we sin, we don't fear losing our salvation. At the same time, we understand that ***our sin does damage to our fellowship with the Heavenly Father and to our relationships with other people.*** We ***confess to God*** our future sins

as we commit them for these reasons:

- We seek to walk in the light, as He is in the light (1 John 1:7).
- We strive for peace in the Body of Christ (James 4:1).
- We do not want to grieve the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30).
- We want the joy of our salvation restored (Psalm 51:12).
- We desire to "live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way" (Colossians 1:10).
- Our testimony matters. We are called to good works that glorify the Father. Our light should shine, not be hidden under a bowl (Matthew 5:14–16).
- We must "put to death . . . whatever belongs to [our] earthly nature" (Colossians 3:5).

***Confessing our sin to God is part of putting the old nature to death.***

Initial confession at conversion ***establishes*** your relationship with God. Confession thereafter ***restores*** your broken fellowship with God.

Proper fellowship with God cannot happen with unconfessed sin in our lives. ***Therefore, we need to confess our sins to God as soon as we are aware that we have sinned, in order to maintain close fellowship with God.***  
***GotQuestions.org***

## **TWO-STAGE PROCESS**

***I am often asked the question, "Why do I continually struggle with repeated sin?"***

Our relationship with God must be restored for to enjoy life-giving fellowship with Him. So, the road to wholeness begins with **REMOVAL**

of the sin that hinders our ongoing vibrant relationship with God by confessing our sin.

So, to maintain a healthy and loving relationship with our heavenly Father, we need to confess our sin the moment we become aware of it. In doing so, we restore our fellowship with Him and avoid the discipline and consequences that come when we refuse to ask God's forgiveness.

A confession of our sin might look like this...

To **CONFESS** our sin, we must **acknowledge** the corruption before God, followed by the **recognition** that this sin was nailed to the cross of Christ and He alone can forgive us. True **repentance** is needed.

The **repentance** (metanoia) called for throughout the **Bible** is a summons to a personal, absolute and ultimate unconditional surrender to **God** as Sovereign. Though it includes sorrow and regret, it is more than that. ... In repenting, one makes a complete change of direction (180° turn) toward **God**. True repentance *is a commitment to turn 180 degrees in the opposite direction with the intention of living differently going forward.*

- **Luke 5:32** I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.
- **Matthew 3:2** Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- **Matthew 3:8** Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.
- **Acts 3:19** Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out.
- **Romans 2:4** Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness

and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

**Heavenly Father, I confess my sin of \_\_\_\_\_. I admit I have violated your standards for holiness. I recognize that our fellowship has been broken. I acknowledge that my sin resulted in Christ's suffering on the cross. I repent of my sin. Please forgive me and restore my relationship with You.**

Confession should be followed with **REPLACEMENT** of the underlying cause of the sin and the lie (corrupted belief) it is based on with biblical truth.

We must **REPLACE** the corrupted belief with a Biblical belief if we are to be set free, truly free. In other words, God's truth must replace the lie. We must **COMMIT** to acting on this truth from this point forward.

**Remember God's truth doesn't become ingrained truth until it is acted upon (cf. James 2:14-16).**

### How is replacement accomplished?

*"According to Catholic theology, the seven deadly sins are seven vices or negative character qualities that, left unchecked, will result in a host of other sins and eventually kill a person's soul. The seven "deadly" sins are pride, envy, gluttony, lust, anger, greed, and sloth. The list was first delineated by Pope Gregory the Great in the sixth century. Thomas*

*Aquinas later expounded on the idea. In the fourteenth century, Dante wrote his epic poem Inferno in which he pictured Purgatory as having seven terraces corresponding to the seven deadly sins."*

- **Pride** (I'm better than others) — An inflated, unrealistic sense of your self-worth.
- **Greed** (More is better) — A strong desire for possessions, especially for possessions belonging to another.
- **Lust** (Self-gratification regardless) — A selfish focus on sex or a desire to have sexual pleasure with someone other than your spouse.
- **Envy** (Want my fair share) — The feeling that you deserve the possessions, success, virtues, or talents of another person.
- **Sloth (Laziness)** (Tomorrow is good enough) — Lack of effort in the face of a necessary task, causing it to go undone (or done badly).
- **Anger** (My wrath is justified) — An excessive, improper desire to exact revenge.
- **Gluttony (Over-indulgence)** (Never too much of a good thing) — An excessive desire for the pleasure of eating and drinking (unhealthy consumption of things).<sup>1</sup>

**NOTE:** The italicized phrase next to the sin label is my attempt to identify the underlying lie of that sin.

The seven deadly sins lead to all other sins according to the article cited. They are the most common

sins that "plague humanity." For instance, anger unchecked can lead to violence or murder. Laziness can lead to unfulfilled or broken promises, irresponsibility, or relational corruption. Envy can lead to jealousy or stealing from others. Greed can lead to gambling, hoarding, trickery, or theft. Pride can lead to arrogance, exaggeration, or devaluing of others. Lust can lead to immoral behavior, sexual deviance, pornography, or adultery. Gluttony or over-indulgence can lead to conspicuous consumption or self-destruction.

One biblical scholar posed the following question. "Is the idea of seven deadly sins biblical?" His answer, "yes and no. [Proverbs 6:16-19](#) lists seven things that are detestable to God: 1) haughty eyes, 2) a lying tongue, 3) hands that shed innocent blood, 4) a heart that plots evil, 5) feet that are quick to rush to do wrong, 6) a false witness, and 7) a man who stirs up dissension among brothers. Of course, this list is not what most people understand as the "seven deadly sins."

But for illustration purposes, I will use these seven deadly sins to explain how replacement can take place in the lives of believers.

### ANTIDOTES

**HUMILITY for PRIDE - Phil 2:3-4** Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than

<sup>1</sup> What are the seven deadly sins?  
GotQuestions.org

yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

### **GENEROSITY for GREED 1 Tim**

**6:9-10** But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

### **PURITY for LUST Col 3:5**

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

### **GRATITUDE for ENVY Ps 100:4-5**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good, his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

### **DILIGENCE for LAZINESS Rom**

**12:11** Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

### **PATIENCE for ANGER Eph 4:1-3**

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

### **MODERATION for OVER-**

**INDULGENCE Tit 2:11-12** For the grace of God has appeared,

bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

**We remove the corruption of sin through confession and replace the lie it is based on with the antidote, replacing the sin with Biblical truth with the express purpose of living in accordance with the truth and not the lie (sin) it replaces.**

Ancient Jewish scholars said a belief is not a real belief until it is acted upon. So, the idea is to replace the 'hole' vacated by the confessed sin with a biblical belief representing the truth. This is followed by a commitment to act on the truth and not the lie. Doing so will form a holy habit that will act as a barrier to the sin once again controlling our behavior.

The return or repetition of the sin in our life, I believe, is due to not filling the void with biblical truth. **Matthew 12:43-45** gives a stark warning from Jesus. "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, but finds none. Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when it comes, it finds the house empty, swept, and put in order. Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there, and the last state of that person is worse than the first. So, also will it be with this evil generation."<sup>2</sup>

## SUMMARY

**Remove** the sin through confession to restore your broken fellowship with the Lord and **replace** to confessed sin with biblical truth with the committed intent to act on the truth instead of submitting to the lie.

## OTHER NEWS



**Heart of a Warrior Ministries** offers four journeys you can take to become who

God created you to be.

**The Foundation** (Ground Zero) helps establish strong biblical foundations for the battles ahead.

**The Compass** (Phase I) calibrates a warrior's heart and tunes that heart to the heart of God. I am currently leading 45 at Calvary Church WBL Campus on this journey.

**The Map** (Phase II) helps men focus on what matters in accordance with their unique divine wiring.

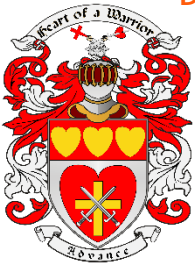
**The Guide** (Phase III) develops the spiritual discipline of being mentored and mentoring others.

Go to our website for more details. [www.heartofawarrior.org/journeys/](http://www.heartofawarrior.org/journeys/)

Previous newsletters dating back to January 2018 may be found at [www.heartofawarrior.org/newpage-1](http://www.heartofawarrior.org/newpage-1)

If you would like to contact me directly, email me at [Greg@HeartofaWarrior.org](mailto:Greg@HeartofaWarrior.org)

<sup>2</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Mt 12:43-45). (2016). Crossway Bibles.



### Donations

Please consider giving to Heart of a Warrior Ministries. HOAW Ministries needs your financial support. Our ability to help men live God-honoring lives

depends on the resources

we can use to that end. Simply go to the donations tab on [heartofawarrior.org](http://heartofawarrior.org).

Thank you for being a subscriber.

You can make a one-time donation by either selecting **Donate to Heart of a Warrior Ministries** or selecting **Donate Now with PayPal** to make a one-time or recurring donation.

Check out **The Store** on our website ([www.heartofawarrior.org](http://www.heartofawarrior.org)). There are downloadable resources you can use to lead a group through Phases I, II, or III, Foundations of a Warrior, and Bible Study Guidelines.

### Websites for Men

**Heart of a Warrior Ministries**

[www.Heartofawarrior.org](http://www.Heartofawarrior.org)

**A Chosen Generation**

[www.achosengeneration.info/](http://www.achosengeneration.info/)

**Band of Brothers**

[www.bandofbrothers.org/](http://www.bandofbrothers.org/)

**Church for Men**

[churchformen.com/](http://churchformen.com/)

**Every Man's Battle**

<https://newlife.com/emb/>

**Every Man Ministries**

[www.everymanministries.com](http://www.everymanministries.com)

**Iron Sharpens Iron**

[ironsharpensiron.net/](http://ironsharpensiron.net/)

**Iron Works**

[www.ironworksmen.com/](http://www.ironworksmen.com/)

**Legacy Minded Men**

[www.legacymindedmen.org](http://www.legacymindedmen.org)

**Life Way Men**

[www.lifeway.com/en/shop/ministries/men](http://www.lifeway.com/en/shop/ministries/men)

**Man in the Mirror**

[maninthemirror.org/](http://maninthemirror.org/)

**Man 2 Man**

[www.man2man.org/](http://www.man2man.org/)

**Man Up God's Way**

[www.manupgodsway.org/](http://www.manupgodsway.org/)

**Men's Fraternity**

[www.mensfraternity.com/](http://www.mensfraternity.com/)

**Men's Ministry Catalyst**

[mensministrycatalyst.org/](http://mensministrycatalyst.org/)

**Men with No Regrets**

[www.menwithnoregrets.org/](http://www.menwithnoregrets.org/)

**National Collision of Ministries to Men**

[ncmm.org/](http://ncmm.org/)

**Ransomed Heart Ministries**

[www.ransomedheart.com/](http://www.ransomedheart.com/)

**Resolute**

[beresolute.org/](http://beresolute.org/)

**Restoration Generation**

[resgen.org/](http://resgen.org/)