



HOAW Newsletter

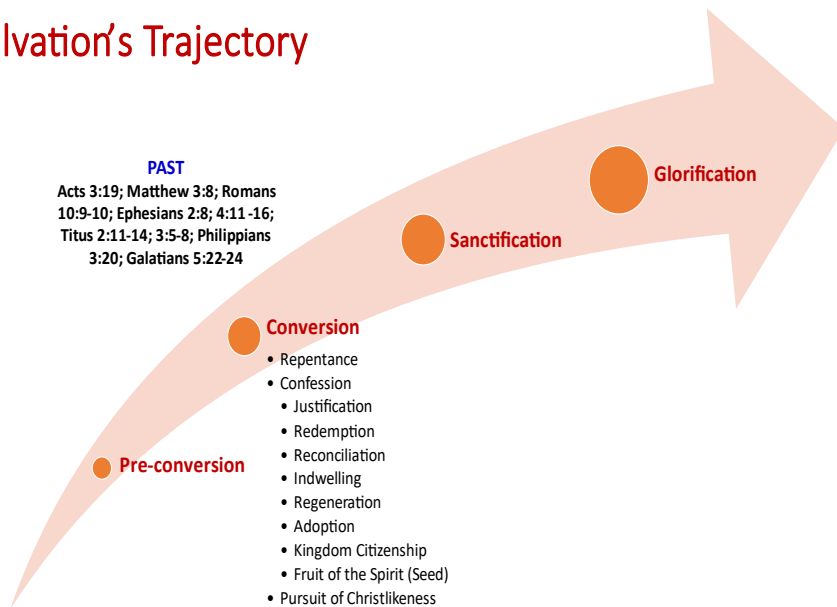
Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. *Romans 10:9-10*

November 2023

HELPING MEN LIVE LIVES OF INTEGRITY AND HONOR

Salvation's Trajectory - Part 2

Salvation's Trajectory



determined by God. Not only that but He pre-determined a unique

considering the claims of the Gospel and to make a decision to be saved.

"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep." **1 Corinthians 15:3-6**

We pick up salvation's trajectory with the next phase called **conversion**.

At this point on the journey an unbeliever is faced with a decision. Let's assume, for the moment, the unbeliever responds to the Gospel and receives Jesus Christ as his savior and Lord. He **repents** of his

Dr. Greg Bourgond

In the HOAW October 2023 Newsletter I explored pre-conversion which begins with God's sovereign creative act where He planned and brought into being each of us. Our existence was pre-

purpose for each us, in advance, before we ever came to be (Ephesians 2:10). From birth He draws us to Him (John 6:44) by using people, events, and circumstances to bring us to conviction. His singular objective is to bring us to the point of seriously

sin. **Repentance** is a fundamental and thorough change in the heart of an individual. Not only is it a 180-degree change but a commitment to a new way of living (Acts 3:19). There is a genuine sorrow and inner disgust to sin with a desire to forsake it. This is accompanied by a surrender to the will and service of God. Repentance understood correctly will result in 'fruit' befitting such repentance (Matthew 3:8). In other words, there should be observable behaviors in the new believer that prove the sincerity of commitment.

Confession is the act whereby conversion happens. God's gift of salvation is received by the repentant sinner based on Christ's finished work on the cross. *"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved (Romans 10:9-10)."*

The unbeliever humbly and prayerfully commits their life to Christ. A prayer such as this would be verbalized. *"God, I know that I am a sinner. I know that I deserve the consequences of my sin. However, I am trusting in Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord. I believe that His death and resurrection provided for my forgiveness. I trust in Jesus and Jesus alone as my personal Lord and Savior. I intend to live boldly for you. Thank you, Lord for saving me and forgiving me! Give me the strength to be a man after your heart. Amen!"* At this very moment, the new follower of Christ is saved and forever sealed by the Holy Spirit.

This amazing gift will never be rescinded. *"In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory (Ephesians 1:13-14)."*

God's gift of salvation is **received**, not 'accepted' because who is accepting whom? No where in scripture are we told to 'accept' Jesus, we are to **receive** Him. Acceptance implies that we decide whether our criteria is met resulting in conversion. We are on the throne of evaluation and judgment. When we **receive** God's gift, we do so with gratitude, as an act of faith. *"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast (Ephesians 2:8-9)."*

Again, at the very moment we receive Christ as Savior and Lord, several things happen instantaneously.

1. We are **justified** (Titus 3:5-8; Romans 3:24; 5:8-9). We are covered by Christ's imputed righteousness> God now sees us through Christ. God judiciously declares a believing sinner to be righteous and acceptable before Him because Christ has borne the sinner's sin on the cross.
2. We are **redeemed** (Ephesians 1:7; Galatians 3:13). The new believer is delivered by payment of a price, the shed blood of Jesus Christ. God has purchased our freedom, and we are no

longer in bondage to sin. Jesus paid the price for our release from sin and its punishment (Matthew 20:28; 1 Timothy 2:6).

3. We are **reconciled** (2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Romans 5:10). We are restored to our heavenly father. Christian reconciliation is the work of God through Christ by which He restores mankind to a favorable relationship with Himself.
4. We are **indwelt** (John 14:17; Ephesians 4:30). We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the action by which God takes up permanent residence in the body of a believer in Jesus Christ.
5. We are **regenerated** (Titus 3:5; 2 Corinthians 5:17). Regeneration, our new rebirth, is God's making a person spiritually alive, as a result of faith in Jesus Christ. Our moral and spiritual nature is changed. In regeneration our old nature is replaced with a new nature (Ephesians 4:22-24).
6. We are **adopted** (Ephesians 1:5; Galatians 4:5). We are brought into God's redeemed family. We are no longer orphans; we are adopted by God and are now His child. When we come to faith in Christ, our debts are cancelled, we are given a new name, and we are given all the rights that heirs of God possess.
7. We receive **citizenship** in God's kingdom (Philippians 3:20; Ephesians 2:19-20). We are given a new passport as citizens of God's kingdom. As citizens,

we have rights, privileges, and responsibilities. We are to represent God's kingdom to a fallen world who see us as foreigners and aliens. We are members of His household.

8. We receive the **fruit of the Spirit** (Galatians 5:22-24; John 15:4-5). At the moment of conversion, we are given the seed of the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) that must be cultivated and showcased to a fallen world. This fruit represents the character of God. The fruit represent the God's family values.

What an amazing gift package! We are given everything we need to live a godly life until we become like Christ (Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:13, 15).

The next HOAW Newsletter will explore the third phase of Salvation's Trajectory called Sanctification.

OTHER NEWS



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

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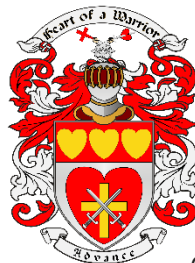
The Guide (Phase III) develops the spiritual discipline of being mentored and mentoring others.

Go to our website for more details.

www.heartofawarrior.org/journeys/

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If you would like to contact me directly, email me at Greg@HeartofaWarrior.org



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depends on the resources we can use to that end. Simply go to the donations tab on heartofawarrior.org.

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