"Prepare to Meet Thy God!"



Who Can Stand? Study Guide

12

Copyright © 2021 by Christa Negley, PhD Mountain Refuge Ministries mountainrefugeministries.com

Unless otherwise marked, Scripture is from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture marked KJV is from the King James Version.

Scripture marked NIV is from the THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Introduction



All heaven has been diligently working for 6,000 years to bring us to this point in earth's history. The emptiness left in heaven by the defection of one-third of the angels brought much sadness to heaven, but this is about to change. Soon, the redeemed of all ages will take their places, and we will be one united, happy family (see The SDA Bible Commentary, vol. 7, p. 949). At great cost to the Father and the Son has this been made possible, yet Jesus saw the travail of His soul and was satisfied.

As we look at the state of society around us, as we become aware of God's people diligently seeking Him as never before, and as we listen to heaven's messages of love coming to us from the throne room above, we sense that the eternal world is only a breath away. The people of God are coming into line and are cooperating with heaven. God's remnant people are disconnecting from the world and its corrupt systems, and are beginning to partake more and more of the Spirit of Jesus. There is great rejoicing in heaven!

1

Why has our journey taken so long?

It has been a long, arduous journey. We have been wandering in the wilderness of this earth for many years, and it is now time to possess the Promised Land. We are called to vindicate the character of God. He is now giving us the opportunity to be part of the final remnant who will be alive to meet the King of kings.

Evangelists have proclaimed the three angels' messages, preachers have presented the everlasting gospel, and missionaries have compassed land and sea to reach the lost, yet we are still here. For decades we have heard messages focusing on the necessity of being righteous, holy, and victorious, and still God's people are caught in the web of repeatedly falling into the same patterns of sinning and repenting.

Perhaps, it is because we have not fully understood what is entailed in the "cleansing of the sanctuary"—our soul temple. This is the focus of this chapter.

As part of Jesus' final work of redemption in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary, <u>He anticipates that His work, in cooperation with His people, will produce a cleansed remnant whose lives will reflect the beauty of holiness</u>. They will love Jesus supremely and will desire to live every moment of their lives to please, honor and glorify Him. These will walk with Him in white, for they are worthy. (See Revelation 3:4.) To this privilege, you and I have been called.

The goal of cleansing is restoration to the original sinless condition of mind, spirit, and soul. We realize, of course, that our mortal bodies will not be changed into the likeness of His glorious body until His Second Coming, but our minds and hearts must reflect the image of Jesus perfectly before He can claim us as His own.



When and how does the blotting out of sin take place?

"I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins" (Isaiah 43:25).

During the process of sanctification, Jesus is still ministering His grace for us in the heavenly sanctuary. Sins that are hidden from us, buried in the secret memories of our brain (in the subconscious), are covered by the perfect righteousness of Christ. These are sins of ignorance, which Jesus must bring to our awareness before He ceases His intercessory work. When Jesus makes the final atonement for sin, He will remove all confessed sins and place them on the head of the scapegoat, which is Satan.

The blotting out of sins from the records of heaven takes place during the judgment of the living. We must come to the place where we are in complete agreement with God on every issue that the Holy Spirit brings to our attention. Thus, our sins will be removed from the books of heaven as well as blotted out of our minds and hearts.



What is holiness?

"Holiness is agreement with God" (5T 743).

All sin is disagreement with God's principles. Wrong impulses come from our thoughts and feelings which began at our conception. We also inherit sinful tendencies through our family line as far back as the 3rd and 4th generations (see Exodus 20:5).

Sinful impulses, tendencies and a bent to evil are transmitted through our lineage. These can become demonic strongholds in our lives. The demons have access to us through wrong thoughts and feelings, and influence and tempt us through the uncleansed areas of our hearts. These will be revealed to all who are seeking holiness through communion with God.



What is the secret of this cleansing work?

It is coming into perfect agreement with God in every area of our lives. When you think about your personal, sinful experiences, you keenly remember your pain, suffering and brokenness. Jesus wants to help you "reach the condition of sinlessness in which Adam lived

before his transgression" (HP 146). He desires to heal your broken heart, however, <u>He will never force you or take away your freedom to</u> choose.

Jesus walks with us as He brings to our remembrance the times we listened to the temptations of the evil one, and got off the path of obedience and purity. If we then repent, Jesus will wash away our guilt, give us His perfect character in place of our failures, and He will blot our sins out of His book. He will also deliver us from the painful memories and the demons who have influenced us. Jesus will restore us completely from the damage that Satan has done and prepare us to live in His presence forever.

Whenever, in our lives, we have violated the principles of God's law, these must be confessed and forsaken. Our former infidelity—when we looked to people or any other thing in place of looking to Jesus—must be recognized and renounced. Examples include looking to people for love, safety, security and approval; looking to food to satisfy soul hunger; looking to worldly things and worldly entertainment instead of God; looking to worldly achievements to feel successful and important, and so forth.



What is the purpose of this cleansing/purification process?

Your Savior, Jesus Christ, loves you with "an everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3). He longs to heal your heart and mind from deep hurts and disappointments you have experienced. In this healing and cleansing process, Jesus walks with you as you pray for the removal of the <u>roots of sins and hurts from your life</u>, enabling you more and more to fully reflect the loveliness of His character.

We are living in the Day of Atonement when Jesus is not only cleansing the heavenly sanctuary from sins but also our hearts and minds from all the damage the enemy has done to us. All our sins recorded in our books in heaven are also registered in our minds. This process of cleansing is necessary in order to have our sins blotted out. Thus, God will have a people prepared for the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit (the latter rain), in order to give the loud cry. We then will be ready for the close of probation and the coming of Jesus.



What is the purpose of the Cleansing Prayer?

The cleansing of our soul temple through prayer is designed to help guide you and me in the pathway of cooperating with Jesus in cleansing from all defilement. It is not designed to be a checklist for holiness. It may be adapted to your needs as God directs you in your personal worship time with Him each day.

The following pages contain a detailed outline and explanation, providing you and me with a guide for the cleansing and blotting out of all sins and emotional traumas. It is by faith through prayer and communion with our dear Savior by our side, that we are led step by step toward His kingdom.

The Cleansing of Our Soul Temple Through Prayer

Part I: Cleansing

- 1. It is important to always begin your prayer by praising God for who He is and the blessings that He has showered upon you in the last 24 hours or throughout your life. Be specific to name even the smallest blessings He has bestowed upon you and your family. This will connect you with His love for you. When you feel depressed and discouraged, keep thanking and praising Him, focusing on His love until you come into the light. Coming into the light means that you sense His love and acceptance of you personally. Only then are you prepared to go to the next step.
- 2. Ask our Heavenly Father to reveal any sin, hurtful memories, negative sinful behaviors, thoughts, feelings, motives or resentments that you may be harboring in your heart. Ask Him to reveal the root of sins (where this sin first took hold of you). Seek the Lord, asking Him to reveal the lies and deceptions of the enemy that you believed, causing you to go down the wrong pathway in the first place. Wait quietly before Him, allowing Him to speak to your heart.

You may claim such texts as: "He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him" (Daniel 2:22). "Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23, 24).

"For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication [righteousness] shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch" (Isaiah 62:1, NIV).

- 3. Once He has revealed your sin or painful emotions, confess these to Jesus, by claiming His blood to cover the sin and heal your painful emotions.
- 4. Ask Jesus to cleanse your memories of the sin or painful emotions. You have most likely fallen into a particular sin or wrong pattern of thinking and feeling repeatedly, and your brain has stored these memories. These must be blotted out by Jesus.
- 5. Ask Jesus to cleanse you to the 3rd and 4th generations where the tendency to this sin may have been passed on through your lineage. Tendencies to sin are passed on to you from the generations that have gone before you. Demons take advantage of these sinful tendencies to gain access to your mind. If you give in to the demons, they then gain rights to continue to have access to tempt you in those areas. Jesus will bring you to the point where there is nothing in you that responds to the overtures of the enemy.
- 6. Ask Jesus to cleanse and remove the sinful and painful emotions from your amygdala—the area of your brain where every emotion that you have ever experienced is stored.
- 7. Ask Jesus to cleanse your books in heaven where the sin is recorded and the memory of it.
- 8. Ask Jesus to cover you with His robe of righteousness. Ask to be covered by the perfection of Christ's life. You may find Scriptures that reveal the way He acted and felt in a similar situation.

- 9. Ask Jesus to blot out the sin and put it upon the head of the scapegoat (Satan).
- 10. At this point in your prayer, it is important for you to ask Jesus that the demons, who have had control in your life and led you astray by their temptations, lies and empty promises, be cast into the Abyss until their final judgment. Thus, your sins and the effects of them will be cleansed away forever, never more to come to your mind. Ask Christ to put a God-given enmity between you and Satan. (See Genesis 3:15.)

Let us remember that we must have love, joy and peace (the fruit of the Spirit) always in our hearts. Whenever we manifest wrong emotions (such as fear, anger, anxiety, etc.) it is at that point that we come under the influence of a wrong spirit (or demon). Satan is behind every sinful emotion one may experience. (See 5T 225.)

Part II: Re-creation and Restoration

- 1. Ask Jesus to re-create/restore the perfect plan He had in His mind when He conceived you and to heal the damage that sin has made in your mind and emotions. You may claim these promises regarding God's plan for you and your life:
 - "Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written. The days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them" (Psalm 139:16).
 - "For I know the thoughts [plans] that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).
- 2. Ask Jesus to seal you into His truth and write His law upon your heart, claiming specific promises that address your sin or painful emotions. Ask Jesus to fulfill His covenant promise by recreating His character in you, as He writes His law of love, the Ten Commandments, on your heart. You may claim Hebrews 8:10, 11. It is very important to have God guide you to specific Scripture texts which address the area of your life you have just confessed. The cleansed area now needs to be filled with God's Word.

There is a principle that can be observed from the Scriptures. Whenever God created something, He always filled it. When God created the land, He filled it with vegetation and animals, when He created the heavens, He filled it with the sun, moon and stars, and when He created man, He filled him with the Holy Spirit. God never creates something and then leaves it void and empty. Jesus illustrated this principle as recorded in Matthew 12:43-45 in His parable of the man with an evil spirit. The evil spirit returned to the man and finding his "house" clean and unoccupied, took seven more spirits with him. Thus, we see the importance of having a cleansed soul temple filled with the Word of God and His Spirit.

3. Ask Jesus to give you the fullness of the Holy Spirit, the latter rain. We are dependent upon the Holy Spirit for every aspect of our life.

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you" (John 14:26).

We are now living in the time of the Latter Rain, which God is ready to pour out upon His people who are emptied of sin.

4. Ask Jesus to remind you of His promises when tempted. Ask Him to help you hear and follow His still, small voice, gently reminding you not to think wrong thoughts or harbor wrong feelings.

"Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left" (Isaiah 30:21).

5. Ask Jesus to bring you back to the condition of sinlessness that Adam had before the fall. "Everyone who by faith obeys God's commandments, will reach the condition of sinlessness in which Adam lived before his transgression" (Mar 224).

7

What is the invitation of the Almighty?

"Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, until the indignation is past. For behold, the Lord comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth will also disclose her blood, and will no more cover her slain" (Isaiah 26:20, 21).

The hour is late and time is short until Christ returns. He is longing to take us home with Him. Yet every soul must have a chance to hear and decide upon truth. Then probation will close forever upon the world. The time of trouble will be the final display of wickedness when the power of the Holy Spirit is fully removed from those who have chosen evil over Christ. During that time God will shelter and protect us in the covert of His hiding place, under the shadow of the Almighty. Then His waiting, faithful ones will be caught up to meet Him in the air, nevermore to be apart. My prayer is that we all will be among this purified group.

Epilogue

It has been a long, arduous journey for all of heaven. In order for perfect agreement and perfect holiness to be restored once more, the plan of salvation included Christ's life as a human being on earth, His sacrificial death on Calvary, His resurrection, and His mediatorial work in the heavenly sanctuary.

Now the long journey is almost over! Can you imagine the excitement and joy of the angels as they see us striving with all our hearts to grow in holiness? They rejoice as God's people look upward toward the straight and narrow way that Ellen G. White saw in vision.

High above the earth, she saw the little band of His chosen ones traveling to the holy city (EW 14). God's true people have not let the bright light of truth that was given to the pioneers in 1844 go out. They have kept it burning brightly to cheer them on the rugged path upward. They are the reward of Christ's sacrifice and the centuries of service that have been tirelessly given by the loyal angels.

Now we are prepared to be the bride of Christ. "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready" (Revelation 19:6, 7).

Key to Abbreviations of E. G. White Book Titles

EW Early Writings

HP In Heavenly Places

Mar..... Maranatha

5T Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free!"

This Study Guide is number twelve in a series of twelve.

Study Guide 1-"Watchman, What of the Night?"

Study Guide 2—"For Such a Time as This"

Study Guide 3—"My Sheep Hear My Voice"

Study Guide 4—"Then Shall the Sanctuary be Cleansed"

Study Guide 5—"The Hour of His Judgment has Come"

Study Guide 6-"Holy, Harmless [and] Undefiled"

Study Guide 7—"That Your Sins May Be Blotted Out"

Study Guide 8-"And the Earth was Illuminated with His Glory"

Study Guide 9-"These Follow the Lamb Wherever He Goes"

Study Guide 10—"He Who is Holy, Let Him be Holy Still"

Study Guide 11—"You Are My Hiding Place"

Study Guide 12—"The Cleansing of Our Soul Temple"

For further information, or your own set of Study Guides, contact:

Christa Negley, PhD 304-240-0795 cell christanegley@gmail.com

www.mountainrefugeministries.com