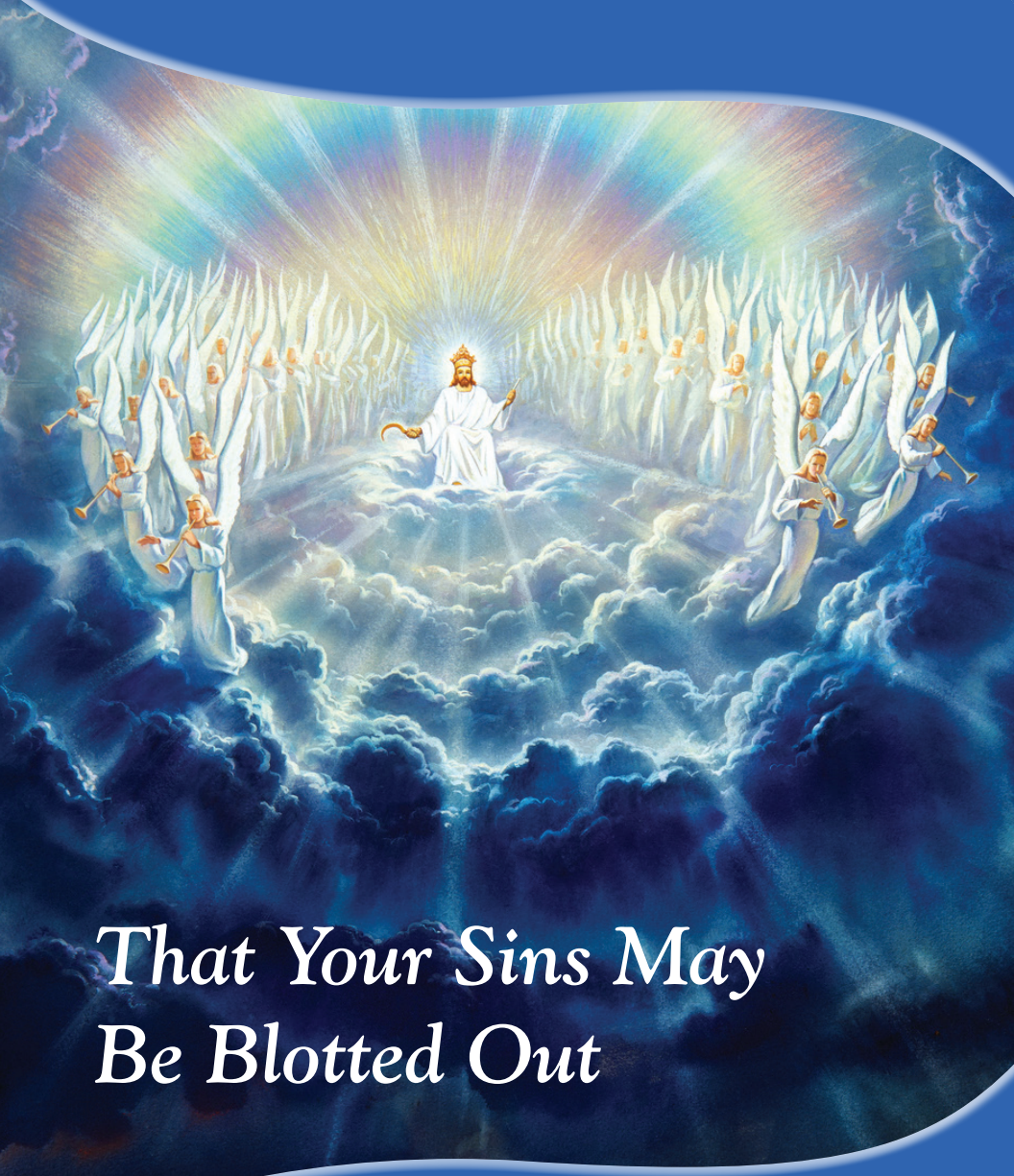


“Prepare to Meet Thy God!”



*That Your Sins May
Be Blotted Out*

**Who Can Stand?
Study Guide**

7

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Introduction



For nearly six thousand years, each member of the human family has been exposed to the pain and suffering that sin has caused. Countless tears have been shed in this vale of sorrow. The time has almost come when there will be an end to confessing the same sins again and again. God is about to complete His work in the human heart. Yes, our sins will be blotted out, never again to harass us or torture our souls with their horrible memories. Jesus is about to throw down the censer and finish His work in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary. Never again will we have the desire to do evil, respond with anger or think an evil thought. Our minds will have been cleansed of all wrong motives and impulses. Our words and actions will reflect the loveliness of Christ's character at all times and in all situations.

The cleansing process during the judgment of the living is not easy; nevertheless, it is most rewarding. To come to the place where

Jesus “will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses” is our exalted privilege (see DA 668). We will know Jesus so intimately that we will actually come to the place where the things we once loved, we now hate. Our minds will be in agreement with the God of the universe and our hearts will beat in unison with His heart of love. The final atonement will then be complete. Only with the transparency of purity will we be enabled to sound the loud cry. Is God inviting YOU to be among the 144,000?

1

Who is the One who blots* out our sins?

“Lord, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us. Lord our God, other lords besides you have ruled over us, but your name alone do we honor. They are now dead, they live no more; their spirits do not rise. You punished them and brought them to ruin; wiped out all memory of them” (Isaiah 26:12-14, NIV).

When Jesus finishes His work of investigation, He will remove our sins from the heavenly record. At the same time He will blot out the sins from our minds and memories.

“In the time of trouble, if the people of God had unconfessed sins to appear before them while tortured with fear and anguish, they would be overwhelmed; despair would cut off their faith, and they could not have confidence to plead with God for deliverance. But while they have a deep sense of their unworthiness, they have no concealed wrongs to reveal. Their sins have gone beforehand to judgment and have been blotted out, and they cannot bring them to remembrance” (GC 620).

*Blot: To erase, destroy all traces of, wipe out, not be remembered, eradicate, obliterate, root (out), stamp out, cancel (Merriam-Webster's Dictionary)

2

When does the blotting out of sins take place?

“The blood of Christ, while it was to release the repentant sinner from the condemnation of the law, was not to cancel the sin; *it would stand on record in the sanctuary until the final atonement*; so in the type the blood of the sin offering removed the sin from the penitent, but it rested in the sanctuary until the Day of Atonement” (PP 357, emphasis supplied).

“Then by virtue of the atoning blood of Christ, the sins of all the truly penitent will be blotted from the books of heaven. Thus the sanctuary will be freed, or cleansed, from the record of sin. In the type, this great work of atonement, or blotting out of sins, was represented by the services of the Day of Atonement” (PP 357, 358).

“The cleansing of the sanctuary was the last service performed by the high priest in the yearly round of ministration. *It was the closing work of the atonement—a removal or putting away of sin from Israel*. It [the services on the Day of Atonement] *prefigured the closing work of our High Priest in heaven in the removal or blotting out of the sins of His people which are registered in the heavenly records*. This service involves investigation, a work of judgment, and it immediately precedes the coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven, for when He comes every case has been decided” (HF 218, 219, emphasis supplied).

“The work of the investigative judgment and the blotting out of sins is to be accomplished before the second advent of the Lord” (Mar 251).

Note: The blotting out of sins is the final intercessory work of Jesus in the Most Holy Place. This is to prepare His people for the close of probation at which time He ceases His ministration in the heavenly sanctuary. His work involves the complete cleansing of our soul temples as well as our records in the books of heaven. Only as we cooperate with our High Priest in this work will we be prepared to face the enemy’s accusations in the time of Jacob’s trouble. It is then that God will test our faith, confidence and perseverance in His power to deliver us.

3

Does the cleansing and blotting out of sins take place before the outpouring of the latter rain?

“Repent therefore and *be converted*, that your *sins may be blotted out*, so that *times of refreshing* [the latter rain] may come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19, emphasis supplied).

“Are we emptying our hearts of all selfishness, and cleansing them, preparatory to receiving the latter rain from heaven? Now is the time when we are to confess and forsake our sins that they may go beforehand to judgment and be blotted out” (RH Nov. 19, 1908).

Note: In order to be prepared for the full outpouring of the latter rain, we need to daily seek God for a complete cleansing from sin. Thus, we will be enabled to receive the refreshing from the Lord. Unless the deep roots of sin are eradicated, Satan still has a connection to our minds and is able to access those areas of our brain that are not fully surrendered to God’s will. Our soul temples must be emptied of all sin and selfishness in order for God to fill us with His holiness. Jesus is able to bring His people to the place where there will be nothing in them that will respond to Satan’s temptations. Praise God, for He will have a people completely filled with the Holy Spirit, who will give the loud cry and be prepared to stand when probation closes. (See Revelation 6:17.)

“The Lord has a work for us all to do. And if the truth is not rooted in the heart, if the natural traits of character are not transformed by the Holy Spirit, we can never be co-laborers with Jesus Christ. Self will constantly appear, and the character of Christ will not be manifested in our lives. ... God can use the human agent just to the extent that he will be worked by the Holy Spirit” (7BC 969).

4

What is the difference between the forgiveness of sin and the blotting out of sin? What is man's part?

“Peter said unto them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost’” (Acts 2:38, KJV).

The sins that we have committed still stand recorded in the books of heaven until the final blotting out of those sins. Likewise, they are still recorded in our minds. *These sins must be blotted out of our minds and out of the books of heaven, for the records of heaven are a transcript of our character.*

“The Lord does nothing without our cooperation” (2SM 236).

Note: When we confess our sins, Jesus forgives our sins, and they are then in remission. In medical terms, it means that there is presently no evidence of the disease, but this does not mean we are cured. There is always the chance the disease might make a comeback.

As we ask Jesus to cover our sins with His blood, we must also ask Him to blot out the sins we have committed. The blotting out of our sins must likewise include the removal of the demons that were responsible for tempting us in the first place. When we sin, we give them certain rights. This process of blotting out our sins, which Jesus does for us in His mediatorial work, is only done with our cooperation.

5

In the blotting out process, does the Holy Spirit reveal to us the motives that prompt our sinful behaviors, thoughts and feelings?

“For the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent [motives] of the thoughts” (1 Chronicles 28:9). “Every act is judged by the motives that prompt it” (COL 316).

“All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the Lord” (Proverbs 16:2, NIV).

Note: The church of Laodicea does not know her true condition, but is instructed to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the church. (See Revelation 3:14–22.) The real root of our sinfulness often lies hidden from our view until the Holy Spirit reveals it to us through trials and experiences, bringing it to our consciousness. Sin does not reign in the converted man but the evil propensities and inclinations to sin still need to be cleansed away by the blood of Jesus in the final atonement—a work necessary in order for us to be prepared for the close of probation.

“The Lord places us in different positions to develop us. If we have defects of character of which we are not aware, He gives us discipline that *will bring those defects to our knowledge, that we may overcome them*. It is His providence that brings us into varying circumstances. In each new position, we meet a different class of temptations. How many times when we are placed in some trying situation we think, ‘This is a wonderful mistake. How I wish I had stayed where I was before.’ But why is it that you are not satisfied? It is because your circumstances have served to bring new defects in your character to your notice, but nothing is revealed but that which was in you” (RH Aug. 6, 1889, emphasis supplied).

6

What gives Jesus the right to blot out our sins?

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, are covered by the perfect righteousness of Christ. These are sins of ignorance which Jesus must bring to our awareness before He leaves the Most Holy Place. When Jesus makes the final atonement for sin, He removes all confessed sins and places them on the head of the scapegoat (Satan).

Note: The blotting out of sins from the records of heaven is not something that happens automatically. During this time of revealing and cleansing of every sin, we must come to the place where we are in complete agreement with God. Whatever He sees in our lives that is unchristlike,

must be confessed and put away. Only thus, can our sins be removed simultaneously from the books of record and from our minds and hearts. The Lord does nothing without man's cooperation. See 2SM 236.

7

What has God promised to do with the sins that we have confessed and forsaken?

“If we *confess our sins*, He is faithful and just to *forgive us our sins* and to *cleanse us from all unrighteousness*” (1 John 1:9, emphasis supplied).

“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions” (Psalm 51:1).

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

“I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, and like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you” (Isaiah 44:22).

“It is the purpose of redemption, not only to blot out sin, but to give back to man those spiritual gifts lost because of sin's dwarfing power” (COL 266).

8

How may we cooperate with Jesus in the blotting out of our sins?

We must recognize that if negative memories remain in our minds, Satan can use them to tempt us. As the Holy Spirit brings these memories to our conscious mind, we can ask Jesus to remove them and blot them out. Jesus can then replace these sinful memories with the example of His life as depicted in His word.

In order to be sealed with the stamp of God's approval, we need to ask Him to cleanse us from everything where we are not in agreement with Him, for "holiness is agreement with God" (5T 743). This is the work that Jesus is now doing in the Most Holy Place of the sanctuary as His people cooperate with Him in this transforming process.

"And do not be conformed to this world, but *be transformed by the renewing of your mind*, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2, emphasis supplied).

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

"The memory of the righteous is blessed" (Proverbs 10:7).

9 **Is there a practical way to cooperate with Jesus in the blotting out of sinful, negative and hurtful memories?**

1. Ask Jesus to bring to your mind any memories that still need to be blotted out of your conscious mind.
2. Whatever lies the enemy has planted into your mind and you have believed to be the truth, must be cleansed.
3. Jesus is able to blot out every memory of what the enemy has done to hurt you throughout your lifetime.
4. If someone has hurt you, ask Jesus to forgive you for reacting negatively and internalizing the pain.
5. Ask Jesus to forgive the person responsible for causing you pain and to also blot the sins out of their lives.
6. Ask Jesus to blot out that negative memory from your mind forever.
7. Ask Him to blot it out of the books of heaven.

8. Now ask Jesus to rewrite that memory: Study His life—how He would have reacted to that particular situation had He been in your place.
9. Ask Him to implant His life into your mind and the books of heaven.
10. Ask Jesus to seal you into the truth as He has revealed it to you.
11. Claim specific promises that apply to your situation. The Scriptures contain the creative power of God to create anything your faith claims according to the Word.

“In them He is speaking to us individually, speaking as directly as if we could listen to His voice. It is in these promises that Christ communicates to us His grace and power. They are leaves from that tree which is ‘for the healing of the nations.’ Revelation 22:2. Received, assimilated, they are to be the strength of the character, the inspiration and sustenance of the life. Nothing else can have such healing power. Nothing besides can impart the courage and faith which give vital energy to the whole being” (MH 122).

Please note that in chapter 12 of this book you will find a simple, easy to follow guideline organized to enable the reader to cooperate with Jesus in the cleansing of the soul temple. We are not addressing justification but rather focusing on the finishing work of sanctification which will produce a cleansed remnant ready for His appearing.

10

What is the whole issue of the sin problem?

The whole issue of the sin problem involves freedom of choice—to believe or disbelieve God’s character and the principles of His government. Sinlessness means to be in perfect agreement with God on everything. “Those only who through faith in Christ obey all of God’s commandments will reach the condition of sinlessness in which Adam lived before his transgression” (6BC 1118). God’s people at the close of history must be in perfect agreement with Him or the great controversy is not over!

Note: Why is it not over? Jesus states in Matthew 24:14, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.” This gospel, as referred to, anticipates our complete cleansing and blotting out of sins and brings us back to the sinlessness with which man was created. If it does not, it is an incomplete gospel, and it isn’t good news after all.

Sin is disagreement with God and His principles of life. If there are roots of sin hidden in the subconscious mind that have not been cleansed and blotted out, would they not spring back to life to bear fruit in the future life in heaven? Sin began in heaven, and God will not take back to heaven anything that would allow the same problem to arise again. As Jesus said in Matthew 15:13, 18–20: “Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted [pulled up by the roots]. ... But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man.”

Note: Roots of sin start in childhood. These roots have been caused by the painful experiences that we may have gone through, at a time when we had not yet given our hearts to God. These roots can now be removed by Jesus’ intercessory work as the Holy Spirit brings these to our consciousness. If we cooperate with Him, He will reveal these to us. As we acknowledge and repent of wrong thoughts, feelings and actions even back to childhood, Jesus will freely forgive us and cover us with His blood. Thus, Jesus is enabled to complete the final work of sanctification in our lives.

We see that the issue of sin involves man’s free choice; therefore, it would be a violation of man’s free will for Jesus to remove our sins from the books of heaven while our minds remain defiled by continuing to sin. The books of heaven and our minds must be in complete harmony in reflecting the character of Jesus. Christ’s blood

represents the perfection of His character. He blots out every vestige of sin from our minds and from our books of record in heaven, according to the prophecy of Isaiah 43:25, 26. If His people still have the roots of sin in their minds—even subconsciously—how and when can they be cleansed after Jesus steps out of the Most Holy Place and there is no blood covering for these sins?

11 Why is the cleansing of our amygdala so important?

The amygdala is the area of our brain that has stored every emotion that we have ever experienced from the moment of conception. Our unfiltered emotional response to a given situation is therefore based on what has been stored in the amygdala's emotional bank of our past experiences.

Note: Before the amygdala is cleansed, we respond from our stored memories. We often respond in a carnal way to a situation or person, drawing from the source of our uncleansed mind. We react in a sinful way because we are acting as we always have done in the past. This is the reason so many Christians are caught in the treadmill of falling into sin, confessing, repenting and then unfortunately repeating the cycle again. This is an automatic response which comes from an uncleansed amygdala.

As we begin to recognize what we are doing, we confess the sin to God and ask Him to cleanse us. After the amygdala is cleansed, we will hear the voice of God more clearly prompting us how to respond. This is the key to complete victory and perfection through Christ.

“Everyone who by faith obeys God’s commandments will reach the condition of sinlessness in which Adam lived before his transgression” (HP 146).

12 Why is it necessary to ask Jesus to cleanse us from our inherited tendencies to wrong?

All sin is disagreement with God's principles, for "holiness is agreement with God" (5T 743). Wrong impulses come from our thoughts and feelings, starting at our conception and heredity back through our family line to the third and fourth generations (see Exodus 20:5). These sinful impulses, tendencies and bent to evil are passed on through demons that have been 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 must be revealed to those seeking holiness through the ministry of Jesus in the heavenly sanctuary in order to be cleansed and cast out.

13 What is the closing work of Christ for the redemption of man?

"As in the final atonement the sins of the truly penitent are to be blotted from the records of heaven, no more to be remembered or come into mind, so in the type they were borne away into the wilderness, forever separated from the congregation.

"Since Satan is the originator of sin, the direct instigator of all the sins that caused the death of the Son of God, justice demands that Satan shall suffer the final punishment. Christ's work for the redemption of men and the purification of the universe from sin will be closed by the removal of sin from the heavenly sanctuary and the placing of these sins upon Satan, who will bear the final penalty. So in the typical service, the yearly round of ministration closed with the purification of the sanctuary, and the confessing of the sins on the head of the scapegoat" (PP 358).

Note: When God’s people ask Jesus to blot out their sins, they give Jesus the right to place them upon Satan, the originator of all sins.

14

Do we have much time left to prepare for eternity?

“And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore, let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light” (Romans 13:11, 12).

“Life, with its marvelous privileges and opportunities, will soon be ended. The time for improvement in character will be past. *Unless our sins are now repented of, and blotted out by the blood of the Lamb, they will stand in the ledger of heaven to confront us in the coming day*” (OHC 187, emphasis supplied).

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble” (2 Peter 1:10, NIV).

Note: Soon the time will come when Jesus steps out of the Most Holy Place of the sanctuary. His mediatorial work on behalf of sinners will be finished. No longer will His blood be available to cover our sins. Each person’s character will be fixed for all time and eternity. May each of us, while probationary time lasts, make our calling and election sure.

15

What is the final result of the blotting out of sins in the lives of God's remnant people?

“I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more” (Jeremiah 31:34).

“But while they have a deep sense of their unworthiness, they have no concealed wrongs to reveal. Their sins have gone beforehand to judgment and have been blotted out, and they cannot bring them to remembrance” (GC 620).

“In that day the Branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious; And the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and appealing, for those of Israel who have escaped. And it shall come to pass that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy—everyone who is recorded among the living in Jerusalem” (Isaiah 4:2).

Note: What a glorious day it will be when God's people perfectly reflect the image of Jesus—when they are truly one with Him in spirit and purpose. No unsanctified sympathy for the enemy will be found in their hearts. They will fully identify with the principles of His kingdom and have His law enshrined in their hearts. It is thus that they are qualified to be the bride of Christ throughout eternity.

Your Commitment to Jesus

Believing that Jesus is now in the Most Holy Place of the sanctuary blotting out the sins of His people, I will seek to cooperate with Him in this process of total cleansing in order to be prepared for the outpouring of the latter rain.

Your Response _____

Notes

Key to Abbreviations of E. G. White Book Titles

- COL *Christ's Object Lessons*
- DA *The Desire of Ages*
- GC *The Great Controversy*
- HF *From Here to Forever*
(*The Great Controversy condensation*)
- HP *In Heavenly Places*
- Mar *Marantha*
- MH *The Ministry of Healing*
- OHC *Our High Calling*
- PP *Patriarchs and Prophets*
- RH *The Review and Herald Periodical*
- 6BC *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,*
Volume 6
- 7BC *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary,*
Volume 7
- 2SM *Selected Messages, Book 2*
- 5T *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5*

“Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free!”

This Study Guide is number seven 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”

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