



The **VALUE** *of* **Guilt?**

THE REALITY OF THE SINNERS GUILT BEFORE GOD -



- ▶ For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, - Romans 3:23 (NKJV)
- ▶ For there is not a just man on earth who does good And does not sin. - Ecclesiastes 7:20 (NKJV)
- ▶ But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. - Galatians 3:22 (NKJV)
- ▶ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. - 1 John 1:8 (NKJV)

BOTH SPIRITUAL & EARTHLY CONSEQUENCES OF SIN



- ▶ Violating even one law, though we keep the rest, makes us guilty before God - (James 2:10; Gal 3:10; Rom 3:19)
- ▶ The Bible tells us that all sin separates us from God - (Isa. 59:1-2).
- ▶ The Bible also tells us that if we believe in, and by faith obey Jesus, we will be forgiven of our sins - (John 8:24; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 John 1:8-10)
- ▶ Even when one's sins are forgiven there usually remains earthly consequences - (2 Sam 12:13; Ps 51:3)

BOTH SPIRITUAL & EARTHLY CONSEQUENCES OF SIN



- ▶ While God and man may forgive us, forgiving ourselves may be much more difficult.
- ▶ David wrote, "For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me" (Ps. 51:3).
- ▶ While God forgave him (2 Sam. 12:13), he never FORGOT his sin.
- ▶ Paul is another great example of how our guilty past can positively effect us today & moving forward -(1 Ti 1:12-17)

1 TIMOTHY 1:12–17 (NKJV)

¹² And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, ¹³ although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴ And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

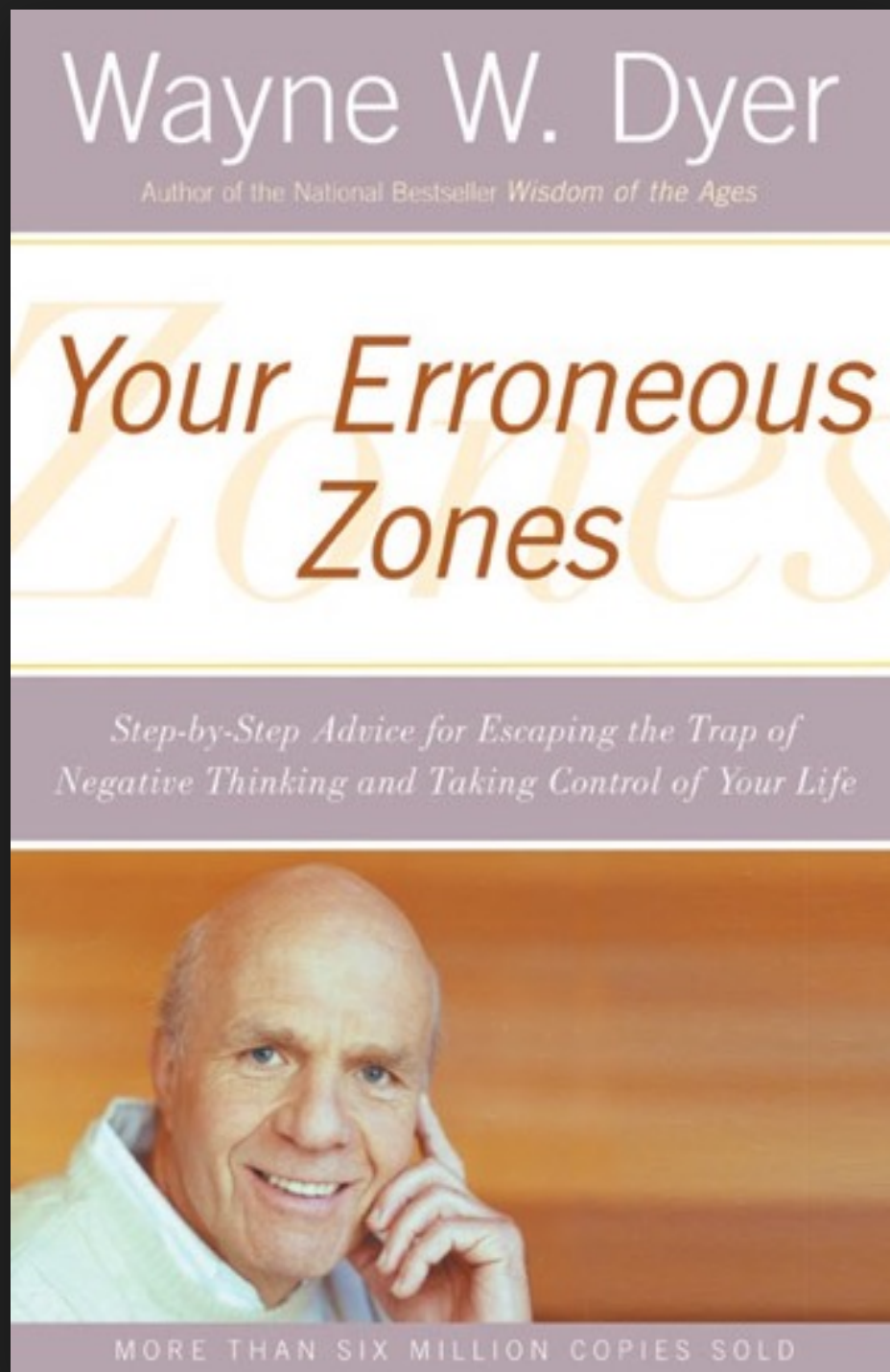
1 TIMOTHY 1:12–17 (NKJV)

¹⁵ This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. ¹⁶

However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. ¹⁷

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

DESTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO GUILT ...



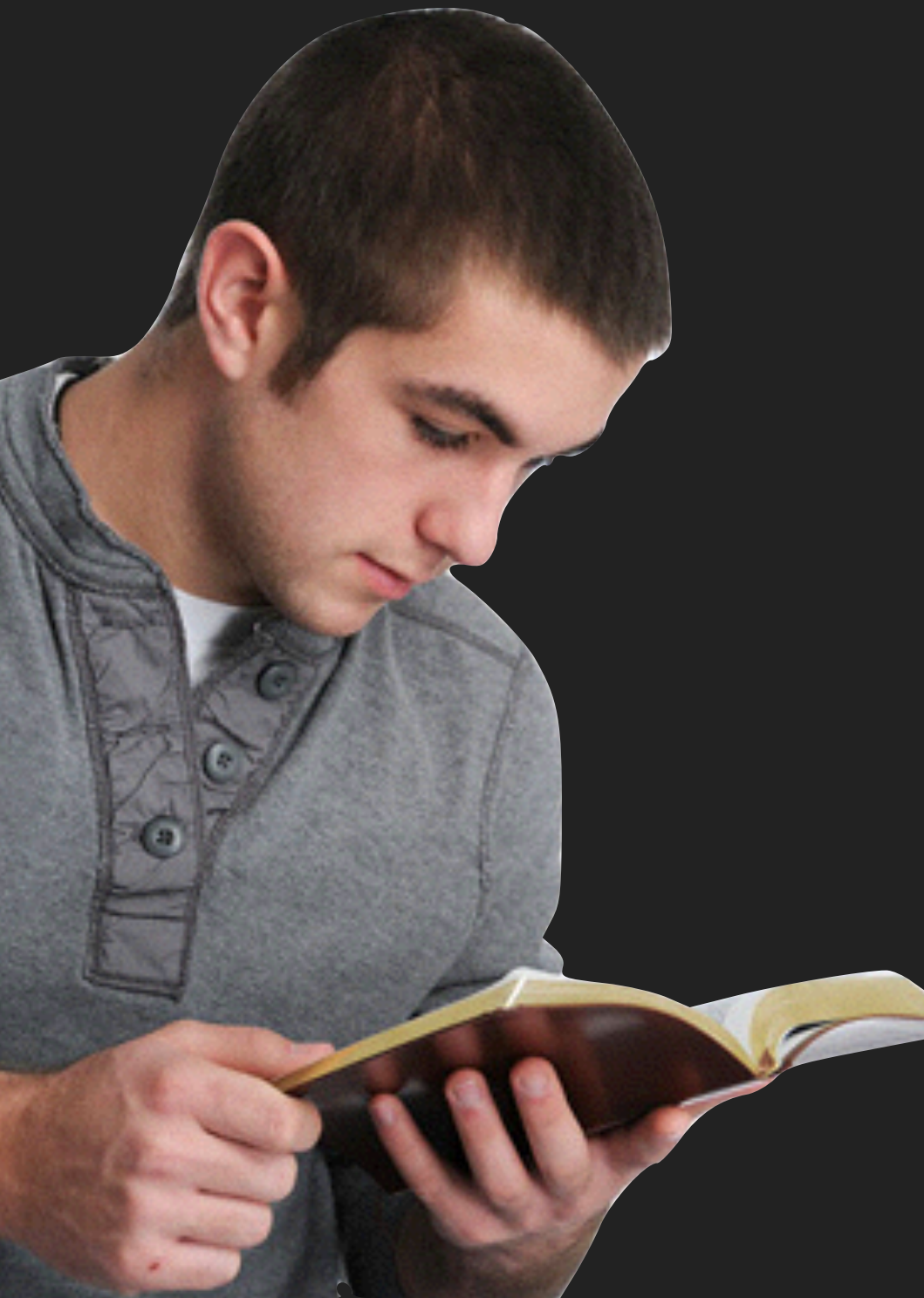
Denial of Guilt -

Defy Guilt Until it Goes Away

(Dr Wayne W. Dyer - Erroneous Zone, 90-91)

“Do something which you know is bound to result in feelings of guilt....Take a week to be alone if you have always wanted to do so, despite the guilt-engendering protestation from other members of your family. These kinds of behavior will help you to tackle that...guilt.”

DESTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO GUILT ...



Denial of Guilt -

Defy Guilt Until it Goes Away

“Hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” - (Hebrews 3:13)

leads to the “searing of the conscience” - (I Tim 4:2).

Those who suppress the truth in their conscience will be abandoned by God - (Rom 1:18-20).

DESTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO GUILT ...



B.F. Skinner

Denial of Guilt -
redefine sin as not being sin -
B.F. Skinner (Harvard professor, founder of
behaviorist psychology)
- “Guilt is a myth because
man is simply a product of
evolution—controlled
exclusively by his
environment.”

DESTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO GUILT ...

Denial of Guilt - By Blaming Others

Freud believed that all guilt came from authoritarian sources, i.e. religion, parents, government, etc.



Sigmund Freud

- ♦ **Adam & Eve** – Gen. 3:12,13
- ♦ **King Saul** – 1 Sam 15:15,20,21
- ♦ **Ahab** – 1 Kings 18:17,18

THE VALUE OF GUILT?

DESTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO GUILT ...



REMOVE THE
REALITY OF SIN,
PERSONAL GUILT
AND THE HUMAN
CONSCIENCE & YOU
REMOVE THE NEED
FOR A SAVIOR,
REPENTANCE AND
REDEMPTION

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Acknowledgment -

- ▶ Acknowledge our TOTAL dependance upon the mercy of God - Ps 51:1-3
- ▶ Acknowledge our guilt - take responsibility - Ps 51:4-6
- ▶ Plead for God's forgiveness & TRULY repent - (Ps. 51:7-17; Ezek 18:21-32; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Complete Devotion

- ▶ God rejects the “double minded” - James 1:8; Mat 6:24
- ▶ Our guilt SHOULD motivate us to whole hearted devotion as God demands? - Gal 2:20; 5:24; Phil 3:7-11; Eph 5:23,24
- ▶ ANY area of our life not completely devoted to God leaves an avenue for Satan to attack!

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Fruit of Repentance

- ▶ Part of repentance includes restitution. - (Lk. 19:8).
- ▶ We can't always make restitution, but we can express sorrow & show by our life we have changed. - (Matt. 8:3; Acts 26:20).
- ▶ If we make changes in our spiritual lives, others can't help but see it (1 Pet. 4:3-5; Eph. 2:1-10)

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Accept God's Forgiveness

- ▶ Forgiving ourselves is NOT EASY! Even if we don't feel forgiven, we can know we are. - (1 Jn. 3:20-21).
- ▶ Paul never forgot he was a persecutor of the church (1 Tim. 1:13), yet his hope was firm because he TRUSTED God's forgiveness - (2 Tim. 4:8)
- ▶ When we obey the gospel by faith - we are FORGIVEN! - Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 John 1:9,10

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Accept Consequences

- ▶ The consequence of David's sin: "...the sword shall never depart from your house ..." (2 Sam 12:10), even after David said, "I have sinned against the Lord" (2 Sam. 12:13).
- ▶ Nathan also told David that the son of Bathsheba would die - (2 Sam 12:14,15; 15-23)

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Accept Consequences

- ▶ In days & years to follow David witnessed:
 - ✦ the death of the child of his sin,
 - ✦ the rape of Tamar by Amnon,
 - ✦ the murder of Amnon by Absalom,
 - ✦ the overthrow of his throne by Absalom,
 - ✦ and finally the death of Absalom.

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Accept Consequences

- ▶ Paul was told he would suffer much for the “name of Jesus”
- Acts 9:16
 - ✳ A list of sufferings given in 2 Cor 11:23-27
 - ✳ Paul pleaded with God to remove his thorn in the flesh, but the Lord’s response was, “my grace is sufficient for you.” - 2 Cor 12:7-10

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Use Guilt Positively

- ▶ It should motivate us to live humbly toward God and those we may have sinned against. - (Mat 5:3; James. 4:8-10).
- ▶ It should help us to be merciful towards those who have sinned against us - (Mat 6:14,15; Col. 3:5; Rom 14)

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Use Guilt Positively

- ▶ Should keep us from further sin by reminding us of the pain we've caused God, others, and ourselves. - (1 Cor 15:10; 1 Tim 1:14-17; Col. 3:5; Rom 6:3-22)
- ▶ Should motivate us to give ourselves wholly to God's service - (1 Cor 15:10)

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Acknowledge Guilt -
Complete Devotion To God
Fruit of Repentance
Accept God's Forgiveness
Accept Consequences
Use Guilt Positively

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT ...



Obey the gospel - Acts
2:38; 22:16; Col 2:12,13

Repent, confess & pray -
Acts 8:22; 1 Jn 1:9,10

Give your life WHOLLY to
the LORD - Mt 16:24-26



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PHILIPPIANS 3:7-11 (NKJV)

⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

PHILIPPIANS 3:7-11 (NKJV)

⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, ¹¹ if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.