

Many Christians don't realize that we can make agreements with the enemy of our souls to escape our past pains
—whether it be from our performance, relationships, reputation, fear, or loss of control. Even though we have
been totally saved from the consequences of our sin, we can still live as a slave to Satan himself because of
conscious and unconscious contractual agreements we have made in our hearts.

God wants us FREE to live life as He designed it. In order to do so we must look inside our hearts, uncover these old agreements, and discover the simple steps to revoke and break them.

By breaking these oppressive agreements, we can then freely live out the life

Jesus ransomed us for and become fully alive through the four tributaries of Discipleship, Counseling, Healing, and Warfare.

God is calling us to live out our calling in communities of the heart, to fight for one another and for the hearts of those who have not yet been set free!

NO LONGER BOUND - AGREEMENTS PT 2

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable

www.MensTable.com

January 17, 2025

Scripture: Jeremiah 40:4-6; Galatians 5:1; John 10:10; Genesis 3:9-13; Romans 1:24-31; I John 1:8-10; James 5:16

Music: Zach Williams - Rescue Story

Video: Shawshank Redemption Andy's entrance https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mR8hHqDygYQ

Resources: Waking the Dead – The Glory of a Heart Fully Alive by John Eldredge

NO LONGER BOUND: SEEING OUR WAY CLEARLY

- 1. <u>LIFE</u> → God offers life (John 10:10). Where is this abundant life that Christ supposedly promised? Where is God when we need him most? What is going to happen to you this year? It is too easy to doubt our place, we come to question God's intentions toward us, and we lose track of the most important things in life.
- 2. HEART → We have forgotten that the heart is central.
- 3. WAR \rightarrow We were born into a world at war. Good vs. Evil.

NO LONGER BOUND: AGREEMENTS

- 1. NO RIGHTS/AUTHORITY > The enemy no longer has inherent right to us (because of what Jesus accomplished through his death and resurrection).
- 2. <u>BELIEVE A LIE</u> → Subsequently, Satan uses our moments of vulnerability to get us to make agreements (this is the way he gains rights to us).
- 3. MAKE A DEAL -> Satan uses bargaining, manipulating us when we are vulnerable and offering us deals (Just like he tempted Jesus in the desert).

4.

What have been your moments of vulnerability?

- 1. When someone threatens to leave you (fear of abandonment)
- 2. When you feel misunderstood, mis-judged or powerless
- 3. When you feel inadequate to tackle what's in front of you
- 4. When you feel afraid of _____5. When you feel ashamed of _____

NO LONGER BOUND: CONSEQUENCES - (Romans 1:24-31)

- 1. **REAP WHAT YOU SOW** → When someone is able to flaunt God's law to his heart's content, it may be a sign that he is under God's wrath. Divine judgment often manifests itself in allowing sinners to reap the consequences of their own rebellion.
- "God gave them over" to three things:
 - a. LUST -> "God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them" (verse 24, NASB).
 - b. **PASSIONS** → "God gave them over to degrading passions" (verse 26, NASB).
 - c. **DEPRAVITY** → "God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper" (verse 28, NASB).
- 3. **DISHONOR SELF** The Greek word translated "gave over" or "gave up" means "surrendered, yielded up, entrusted, or transmitted." In this context, it refers to the act of God completely abandoning the unrighteous. As the wicked deserted God, God in turn deserted them, no longer giving them divine direction or restraint, but allowing them to corrupt themselves as they wished. Because they would not honor Him, He let them do what they pleased to dishonor themselves. Being given over or yielded up to one's sinful desires is a judgment from God.

NO LONGER BOUND: TYPES OF AGREEMENTS.

- 1) **PROGRAM** \rightarrow A symptom we agree to run like a program in our system.
 - a) Internal or external lie we believe about ourselves or others
 - b) Can be rooted in body, heart, spirit (i.e. self-hatred, OCD, depression, nightmares, migraines, etc)
- 2) **POWER** → The enemy offered you power in a place you felt powerless.
 - a) I.e. the power to save my parents marriage, secure my finances, be liked, become successful.
- 3) **OWNERSHIP** → Simply gave the enemy ownership of something (body/heart/spirit)
 - a) IE: relationship, health, dreams, self image, prayers, calling etc
- 4) $\underline{\mathsf{TRANSFER}} \rightarrow \mathsf{A}$ rescue attempt; usually within parent-child or spouse relationship
 - a) Consider something you gave away (gift, provision, etc.) for the sake of another or something you took on (issues, warfare, etc.)
- 5) **ASSAULT** → always an enemy attack you agreed to to stave off a bigger threat of attack.



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NO LONGER BOUND: BREAKING AGREEMENTS.

- 1. CONFESS/REPENT & ASK FOR FORGIVNESS → Tell your story, choose to believe the truth and accept forgiveness. I John 1:8-10 and James 5:16.
- 2. **REVOKE THE AGREEMENT** → Bind all entities that came with the agreement, revoke their rights, and cast them to the cross. Give up/surrender to God all things gained/bargained for and ask Jesus to take them away: Powers gained or promised, blocks, lies; loved ones entrusted into God's care, etc.
- 3. <u>REVERSE AND CORRECT ALL EFFECTS OF THAT AGREEMENT</u> \rightarrow Ask Jesus to come in and reign in all effected areas and breathe His life. Bless all parts of your LIFE: Heart & Body affected by the agreement.

ACTION: Journal This!

- 1. What are stories of trauma that you carry?
- 2. How has that story damaged your life?
- 3. How can you gain your freedom from the effects of your trauma?

SCRIPTURE – The Message

Jeremiah 40:4-6 - 4 "But today, Jeremiah, I'm setting you free, taking the chains off your hands. If you'd like to come to Babylon with me, come along. I'll take good care of you. But if you don't want to come to Babylon with me, that's just fine, too. Look, the whole land stretches out before you. Do what you like. Go and live wherever you wish. 5 If you want to stay home, go back to Gedaliah son of Ahikam, son of Shaphan. The king of Babylon made him governor of the cities of Judah. Stay with him and your people. Or go wherever you'd like. It's up to you." The captain of the bodyguard gave him food for the journey and a parting gift, and sent him off. 6 Jeremiah went to Gedaliah son of Ahikam at Mizpah and made his home with him and the people who were left behind in the land. Take Care of the Land

<u>Galatians 5:1 -</u> 1 Christ has set us free to live a free life. So take your stand! Never again let anyone put a harness of slavery on you.

<u>John 10:10 -</u> 10 A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

Genesis 3:9-13 - 9 So those now who live by faith are blessed along with Abraham, who lived by faith - this is no new doctrine! 10 And that means that anyone who tries to live by his own effort, independent of God, is doomed to failure. Scripture backs this up: "Utterly cursed is every person who fails to carry out every detail written in the Book of the law." 11 The obvious impossibility of carrying out such a moral program should make it plain that no one can sustain a relationship with God that way. The person who lives in right relationship with God does it by embracing what God arranges for him. Doing things for God is the opposite of entering into what God does for you. Habakkuk had it right: "The person who believes God, is set right by God - and that's the real life." 12 Rule-keeping does not naturally evolve into living by faith, but only perpetuates itself in more and more rule-keeping, a fact observed in Scripture: "The one who does these things [rule-keeping]continues to live by them." 13 Christ redeemed us from that self-defeating, cursed life by absorbing it completely into

himself. Do you remember the Scripture that says, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"? That is what happened when Jesus was nailed to the Cross: He became a curse, and at the same time dissolved the curse. Romans 1:24-31 - 24 So God said, in effect, "If that's what you want, that's what you get." It wasn't long before they were living in a pigpen, smeared with filth, filthy inside and out. 25 And all this because they traded the true God for a fake god, and worshiped the god they made instead of the God who made them - the God we bless, the God who blesses us. Oh, yes! **26** Worse followed. Refusing to know God, they soon didn't know how to be human either - women didn't know how to be women, men didn't know how to be men. 27 Sexually confused, they abused and defiled one another, women with women, men with men - all lust, no love. And then they paid for it, oh, how they paid for it - emptied of God and love, godless and loveless wretches. 28 Since they didn't bother to acknowledge God, God guit bothering them and let them run loose. 29 And then all hell broke loose: rampant evil, grabbing and grasping, vicious backstabbing. They made life hell on earth with their envy, wanton killing, bickering, and cheating. Look at them: mean-spirited, venomous, 30 fork-tongued Godbashers. Bullies, swaggerers, insufferable windbags! They keep inventing new ways of wrecking lives. They ditch their parents when they get in the way. 31 Stupid, slimy, cruel, cold-blooded.

I John 1:8-10 - 8 If we claim that we're free of sin, we're only fooling ourselves. A claim like that is errant nonsense. 9 On the other hand, if we admit our sins - make a clean breast of them - he won't let us down; he'll be true to himself. He'll forgive our sins and purge us of all wrongdoing. 10 If we claim that we've never sinned, we out-and-out contradict God make a liar out of him. A claim like that only shows off our ignorance of God.

<u>James 5:16 - 16</u> Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

"Chain Breaker" By Zach Williams

There I was empty-handed Crying out from the pit of my despair There You were in the shadows Holding out Your hand You met me there And now where would I be without You? Where would I be, Jesus? You were the voice in the desert Calling me out in the dead of night Fighting my battles for me You are my rescue story Lifted me up from the ashes Carried my soul from death to life Bringing me from glory to glory You are my rescue story You are, You are You are my rescue story You are, You are You were writing the pages

Before I had a name Before I needed grace, oh Singing songs of redemption 'Cause every time I ran away You were louder than my shame And now where would I be without You? Where would I be, Jesus? You were the voice in the desert Calling me out in the dead of night Fighting my battles for me You are my rescue story Lifted me up from the ashes Carried my soul from death to life Bringing me from glory to glory You are my rescue story You never gave up on me You never gave up on me You are my testimony, ooh...

You never gave up on me You never gave up on me You are my testimony, ooh... You never give up on me Oh, You never give up on me Oh, this is my testimony Oh, You were the voice in the desert Calling me out in the dead of night Fighting my battles for me You are my rescue story Lifted me up from the ashes Carried my soul from death to life Bringing me from glory to glory 'Cause You are my rescue story You are, You are (You are my rescue story) Oh, You never gave up on me, never gave up on me

You are, You are Yeah, You are my rescue story

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