

• VOLUME IV •

WORDS THAT WOUNDED

The Truth We Live

Walking in Restoration, Practicing Forgiveness,
and Living Beyond the Old Verdict

JOEL RABE

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Four-volume edition in preparation

VOLUME IV | AN INVITATION TO READ

The Truth We Live

Walking in Restoration, Practicing Forgiveness, and Living Beyond the Old Verdict

Understanding is a beginning; truth must also become a way of life. The closing volume follows biblical stories of rejection, shame, failure, calling, and restoration, then brings their lessons into grief, repentance, forgiveness, boundaries, and new responses. It explores how to live faithfully when the body still reacts, how to serve without making the wound our calling, and how practiced truth can shape relationships, community, and the next ordinary step.

This volume is for you if...

You may find this volume helpful if you are ready to carry biblical understanding into grief, forgiveness, boundaries, relationships, and calling - including the days when growth feels slow.

What you will explore

- Biblical stories of hiding, rejection, inadequacy, shame, and restoration
- Failure without permanent disqualification
- Grief, lament, repentance, mercy, and responsibility
- Replacing a governing belief and practicing a new response
- Forgiveness, reconciliation, trust, and access
- When the body still reacts after the mind knows the truth
- Surrender, calling, ministry, and living beyond the old verdict

Carry tested truth into daily life through patient practice, wise relationships, accountable community, and hope in Christ.

Explore this book online

VOLUME IV | THE READING JOURNEY

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Chapter titles follow the current manuscript. This four-volume arrangement is proposed; final divisions and book pagination will be confirmed before release.

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- Supporting material: Appendix A - Spiritual Warfare Without Speculation; endnotes and selected bibliography. Placement will be confirmed for the release edition.

VOLUME IV | FROM THE MANUSCRIPT

Read a Sample

Chapter 49 - Grief, Lament, and What Cannot Be Rewritten

The Human Doorway

Rachel could now name the old belief beneath her fear of abandonment, but the improved interpretation did not return the years, restore the deceased relationship, or produce the apology she once hoped to hear. She was tempted to treat continued grief as evidence that the framework had failed. Scripture offered something more honest than a positive reversal. Lament made room for love, protest, memory, unanswered questions, bodily sorrow, community, and hope without requiring the past to become editable.

The governing question is this: How can believers grieve what cannot be rewritten without turning loss into identity, false guilt, accusation against every present relationship, or denial disguised as faith?

Rachel is a fictional composite whose grief includes both an irreversible loss and conclusions that remain open to examination. Her father's death cannot be revised. Her belief that every important relationship will end in abandonment can be tested against Scripture and present evidence without treating sorrow as a reasoning error.

An anniversary can make the past feel immediate. Rachel's body remembers before she has formed a sentence, and the absence remains real after every truthful distinction has been made. Pressure reveals where grief has joined false guilt, isolation, or universal prediction, but it does not make continued sadness a verdict against faith.

Joel Rabe | Excerpt from the current manuscript. Chapter numbering follows the complete manuscript; the release edition is in preparation.

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VOLUME IV | READING THE DESIGN

About the Cover

The olive tree stands beside clear water, with tender new growth among its established branches. Psalm 1 describes a person rooted in the Lord's instruction, bearing fruit in season. The gentle dawn reflects patient growth: truth taking root through ordinary days, changing relationships, and faithful choices.

The parchment heart remains within the trunk. Our remembered history travels with us as we grieve, repent, forgive, establish wise boundaries, and practice new responses. The golden thread follows the roots and the path as people walk together. The shared journey makes room for encouragement, accountability, and care.

John 15:4-5 centers fruitfulness in abiding in Christ. We continue with Him while learning to live what we have come to understand. Growth can coexist with sorrow or bodily responses that still need attention. The path remains open before us: one faithful step, one honest conversation, one practiced truth at a time.

Four covers. One golden thread.

The shared blue-and-gold palette, frame, typography, and golden thread connect the collection: the words we heard, the patterns we learned, our beliefs before the Word, and the truth we live.

VOLUME IV | SCRIPTURE & KEY CONCEPTS

Biblical Connections

Psalm 1:3 - KJV excerpt

“a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season”

John 15:5 - KJV excerpt

“He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit”

Greek: meno - remain, abide

Meno means remain or abide. John 15:4-5 connects fruitfulness with continuing relationship with Christ. The cover’s olive tree illustrates rooted growth; Jesus’ own illustration in that passage is a vine and its branches.

Lexical reference**Hebrew: derek - way, road, course of conduct**

The path draws on biblical usage that joins a way walked with a way lived. It supports the volume's focus on truth expressed through conduct and relationships.

Lexical reference**Explore this volume online**

Original-language notes clarify the cited passages. The artwork is a devotional interpretation of these themes. This preview is not the full manuscript; final divisions and page counts are forthcoming.