

## Of the Mortification of Sin in Believers

*If ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body ye shall live (Rom. 8:13b; KJV)*

### **Lecture 2—The Business of Mortification**

#### Outline of Chapter 2 (9–16)

#### **I. Confirmation of the Thesis (9–10)**

Thesis: *“The choicest believers, who are assuredly freed from the condemning power of sin, ought yet to make it their business all their days to mortify the indwelling power of sin”* (9 cf. 7).

Proofs:

Col. 3:5

John 15:2

1 Cor. 9:27

\*Owen—“Be killing sin or it will be killing you” (9).

#### **II. Reasons Mortification Must Be Our Business (10–15)**

##### **A. Indwelling Sin Always Abides in Us (10–11)**

Against whom does Owen assert this point?

Proofs:

2 Cor. 4:16

1 Cor. 12:12

2 Peter 3:18

Gal. 5:17

1 John 1:8

Rom. 7:24

Phil. 3:21

##### **B. Indwelling Sin Always Acts in Us (11–12)**

\*Owen—“When sin lets us alone we may let sin alone” (11).

Proofs:

Rom. 7:23

James 4:5

Gal. 5:17

James 1:14

Rom. 7:19

C. Unmortified Sin Leads to Great, Cursed, Scandalous, Soul-Destroying Sins (12)

Proofs:

Gal. 5:19–21

Example of David

\*Owen—"Sin aims always at the utmost" (12).

\*Owen—"There is not the best saint in the world but, if he should give over this duty, would fall into as many cursed sins as ever did any of his kind" (12).

D. The Spirit and New Nature is Given to Us to Oppose Sin (12–13)

Proofs:

Gal. 5:17

2 Peter 1:4–5

Rom. 7:23

\*Owen—"Not to be daily mortifying sin, is to sin against the goodness, kindness, wisdom, grace, and love of God, who hath furnished us with a principle of doing it" (13).

E. Negligence Casts the Soul Into a Contrary Condition Than is True of Us (13–14)

Instead of 2 Cor. 4:16 the opposite it true

Proofs:

Ps. 31:10

Ps. 51:8

Ps. 38:3–5

Ps. 40:12

Isa. 33:24

- F. It is Our Duty to Perfect Holiness, Grow in Grace, and Renew the Inner Man (14–15)

Proofs:

2 Cor. 7:1

1 Peter 2:2

2 Peter 3:18

2 Cor. 4:16

**III. The Evils in Unmortified Professors (15–16)**

- A. In Himself (15)
  
- B. To Others (15–16)
  - 1. It Hardens
  
  - 2. It Deceives