**THE MORTIFICATION OF SIN**

**Fall, 2022**

**Class 7 – Chapter 11**

**REVIEW (Chapter 9)**

Preparatory Directive #2

**CHAPTER 11 – A Tender Conscience and a Watchful Heart**

1. **Preparatory Directive #3**: Charge your conscience with the guilt of indwelling sin.
   1. In relation to the Law of God. Ps. 51:3; Mat. 5:17-18; Rom. 2:12-15
   2. In relation to the Gospel. Heb. 2:1-4; Heb. 10:26-31. Three related special instructions.
2. **Preparatory Directive #4**: Cultivate a longing to be delivered from indwelling sin.

Rom. 7:24

1. **Preparatory Directive #5**: Consider whether a troubling indwelling sin is related to your nature and personality and deal with it honestly and wisely. Ps. 51:5; 1Cor. 9:27
2. **Preparatory Directive #6**: Know the past occasions and triggers indwelling sin has used against you and watch carefully for them. Luke 21:34; Mark 13:37
3. **Preparatory Instruction #7**: Rise mightily against the first sign of sin, don’t allow it to gain the smallest ground. Jas. 1:14-15

**Discussion Questions: Chapter 11**

* + - 1. **Owen writes as follows at the top of page 77 of *The Mortification of Sin*:**

“Consider the law in its holiness, spirituality, severity, and see if you can stand before it in your corruption [i.e., an indwelling, sinful lust]. Allow the terror of the Lord as displayed in the law to affect you greatly. Consider how righteous it is that every one of your transgressions should receive a just award of judgment. *Perhaps your conscience might seek to escape the ramifications of this line of reasoning.”*

What does this last sentence mean? How would that look in practice? How does your own conscience do this?

* + - 1. **Owen writes as follows in the middle paragraph on page 77:**

“Tell your conscience that it cannot be assured that you are free from the condemning power of sin while your unmortified lust dwells in your heart. Perhaps the law has dominion over you and you are indeed a lost creature! It is best to consider seriously what the law has to say.”

Now read Rom. 3:19-20 and 7:7-13.

(1) What is the purpose and effect of the law of God?

(2) What is Owen saying in the quoted passage concerning our sense of security and assurance of salvation before God?

* + - 1. **Owen writes as follows in the middle paragraph on page 78**:

“If you intend ever to gain victory in mortification, you must tie your conscience to the law. Do not allow it to dodge the law’s arrows.”

What purpose does it serve to “tie your conscience to the law”? What consequences follow failing to do so?

* + - 1. **After the above discussion of the law, Owen writes as follows at the bottom of page 78:**

“Bring your lust to the to the gospel. Not for relief, but for further conviction of your guilt.”

What does he mean by “bring it to the Gospel” in this way? Read Heb.10:26-31.

Consider a few of the self-questions Owen asks as an example of bringing one’s sin to the Gospel beginning at the bottom of page 78. What effect do these questions have on the conscience? What should be the resulting effect on the rising of a sinful lust in our hearts?