



LOVING GOD  
WITH YOUR MIND

Josiah  
Gutierrez

# GREAT COMMANDMENT- LOVING GOD WITH EVERYTHING

- 37 He said to him, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. 38 This is the greatest and most important command. 39 The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. 40 All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.”

Matthew 22:37-40

WHOLEHEARTED DEVOTION TO GOD WITH EVERY ASPECT OF ONE'S BEING, FROM WHATEVER ANGLE ONE CHOOSES TO CONSIDER IT—  
**EMOTIONALLY, VOLITIONALLY, OR COGNITIVELY.**  
THIS KIND OF “LOVE” FOR GOD WILL THEN RESULT IN **OBEDIENCE TO ALL HE HAS COMMANDED** – CRAIG BLOMBERG

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**SO WHY TALK  
ABOUT LOVING  
GOD WITH YOUR  
MIND?**

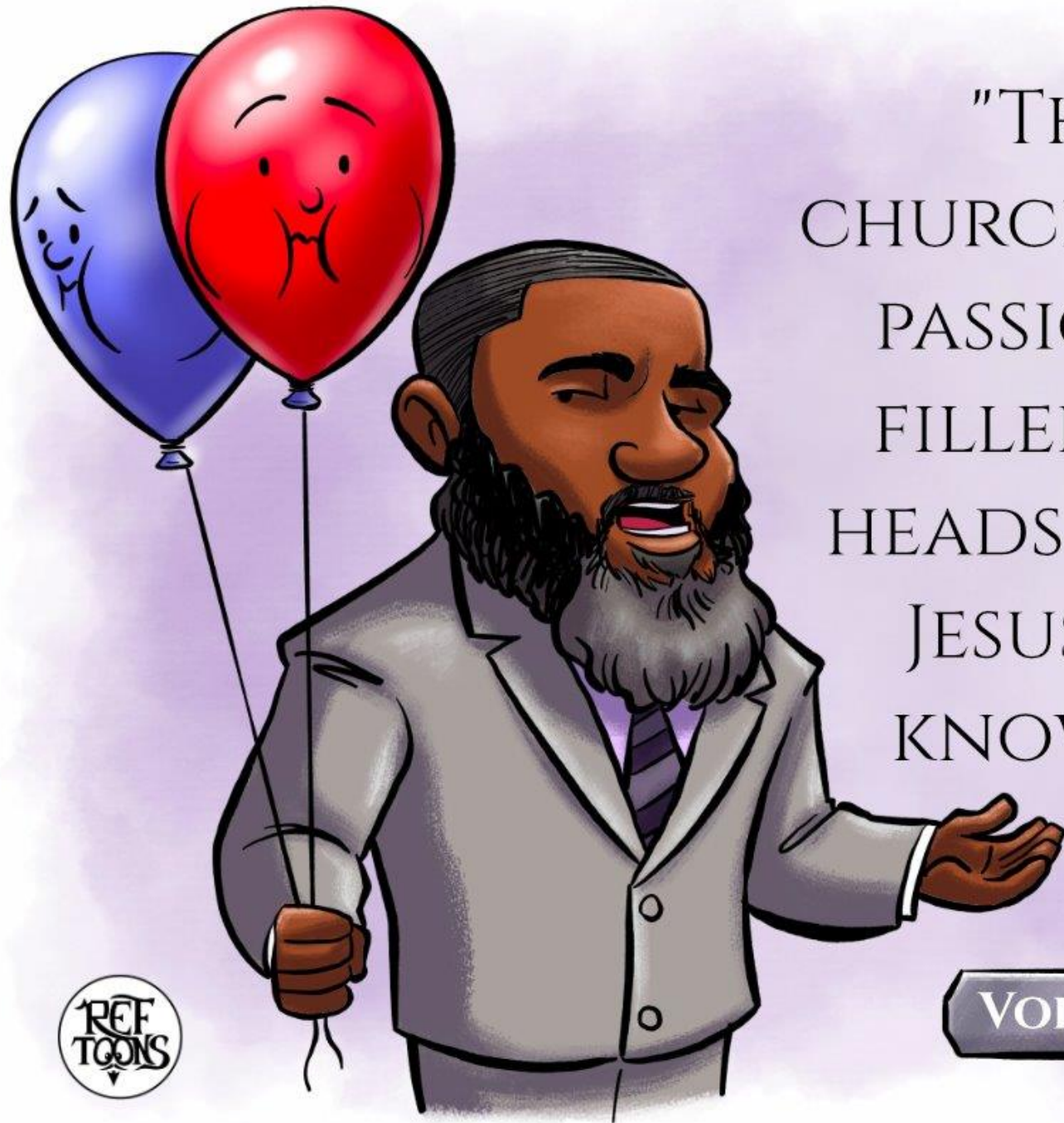
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# 1. ANTI-INTELLECTUALISM'S ATTACK ON THE CHURCH

- PRIORITIZING EXPERIENCE OVER TRUTH
- DISMISSING THEOLOGICAL/BIBLICAL DOCTRINE
- DECLINING CHURCH ATTENDANCE
- NEW METHODS OF WORSHIP





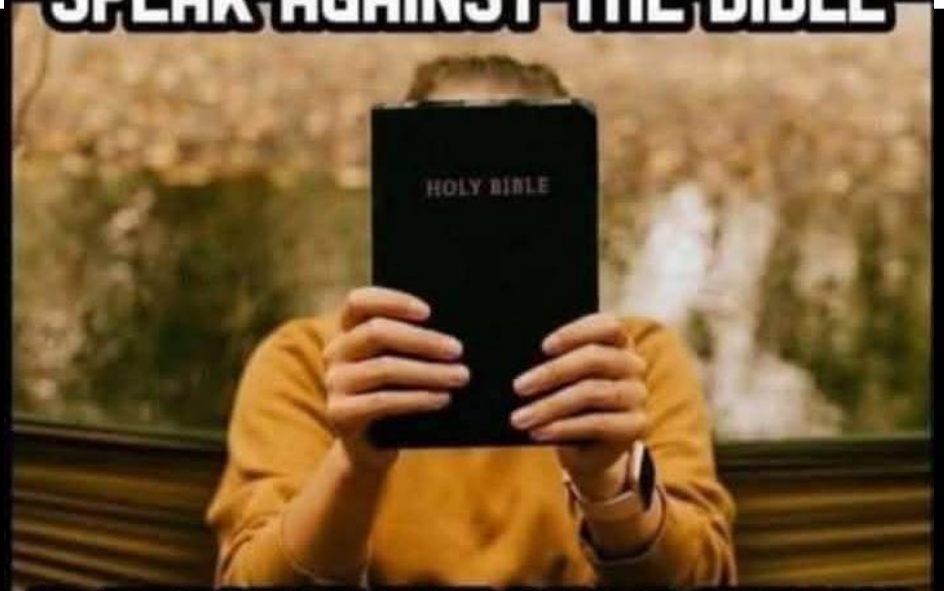
"THE MODERN  
CHURCH IS PRODUCING  
PASSIONATE PEOPLE  
FILLED WITH EMPTY  
HEADS WHO LOVE THE  
JESUS THEY DON'T  
KNOW VERY WELL."

VODDIE BAUCHAM JR.



**2. THE NUMBER OF INFLUENCERS  
GROWS BY 10-20%  
EVERY YEAR (GLOBAL  
MARKET IN 2024 WAS  
24 BILLION).**

**THE MAIN REASON PEOPLE  
SPEAK AGAINST THE BIBLE**



**IS BECAUSE THE BIBLE SPEAKS  
AGAINST THEIR LIFESTYLE.**

**-FROM WHERE ARE YOU GETTING YOUR INFORMATION?**

**-PODCASTS/REELS/VIDEOS ARE ALL TIME CONSUMING YET  
NO SUBSTITUTE FOR PERSONAL DEVOTION AND HOLINESS.**

### 3. SATAN'S PURPOSE AND STRATEGIES HAVE NOT CHANGED.

– REVELATION 12:9 SO THE GREAT DRAGON WAS THROWN OUT—THE ANCIENT SERPENT, WHO IS CALLED THE DEVIL AND SATAN, THE ONE WHO DECEIVES THE WHOLE WORLD. HE WAS THROWN TO EARTH, AND HIS ANGELS WITH HIM.

-REVELATION 12:12- ... FOR THE DEVIL HAS COME DOWN TO YOU WITH GREAT FURY, BECAUSE HE KNOWS HE HAS A SHORT TIME



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## 4. PRONE TO WANDER – THE WAR WITHIN

- Jeremiah 17:9- 9 The heart is more **deceitful** than anything else, and incurable—who can understand it?
  - Romans 7:18-19-For I know that **nothing good lives in me**, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do what is good is with me, but there is no ability to do it. 19 For I do not do the good that I want to do, but I practice the evil that I do not want to do.
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INDEED, IF WE CONSIDER THE UNBLUSHING PROMISES OF REWARD AND THE STAGGERING NATURE OF THE REWARDS PROMISED IN THE GOSPELS, IT WOULD SEEM THAT OUR LORD FINDS OUR DESIRES, NOT TOO STRONG, BUT TOO WEAK. WE ARE HALF-HEARTED CREATURES, FOOLING ABOUT WITH DRINK AND SEX AND AMBITION WHEN INFINITE JOY IS OFFERED US, LIKE AN IGNORANT CHILD WHO WANTS TO GO ON MAKING MUD PIES IN A SLUM BECAUSE HE CANNOT IMAGINE WHAT IS MEANT BY THE OFFER OF A HOLIDAY AT THE SEA. WE ARE FAR TOO EASILY PLEASED.

- C. S. LEWIS -

**We are half-hearted  
creatures...like an ignorant child who  
wants to go on making mud pies in a slum  
because he cannot imagine what is meant  
by the offer of a holiday at the sea.  
We are far too easily pleased.**

**C.S .LEWIS**



BLB.ORG

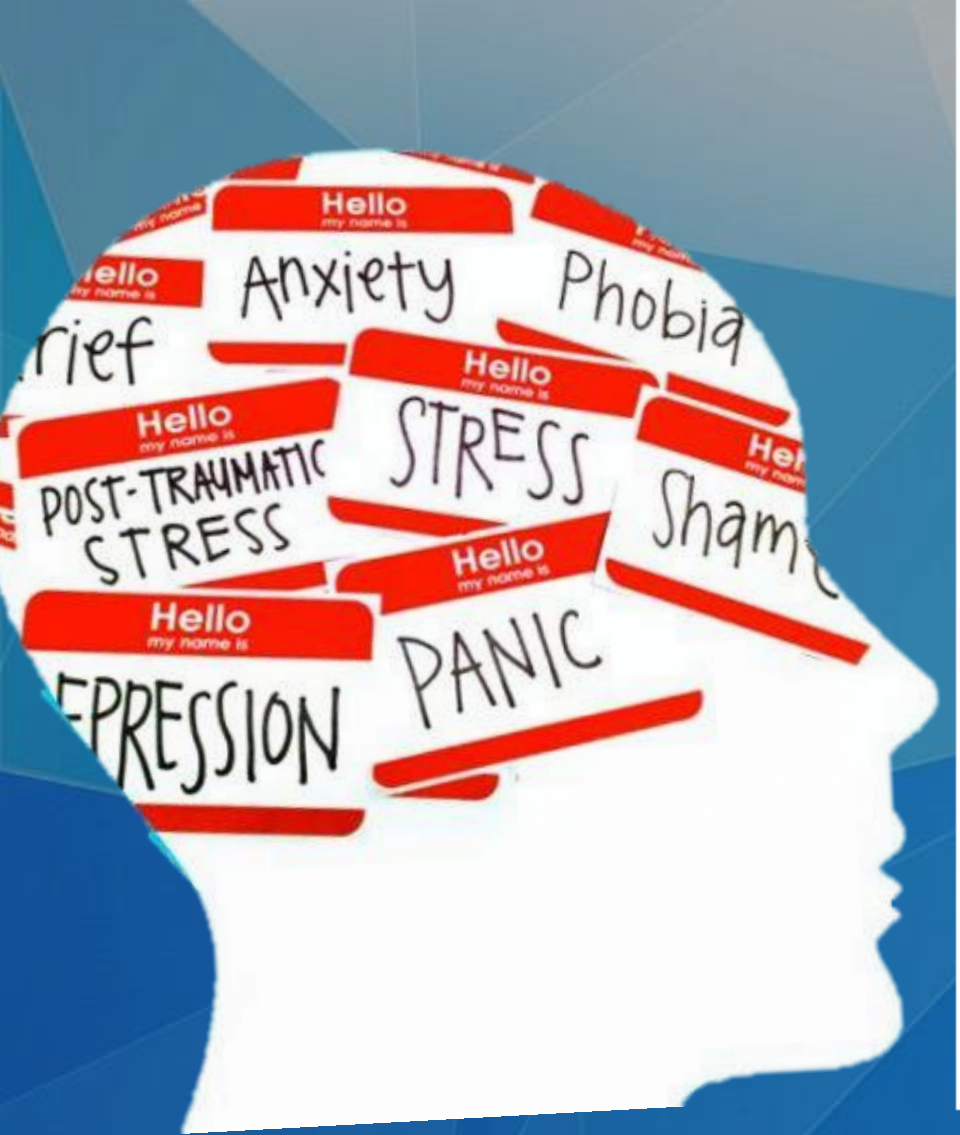
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**5. MAN'S CHIEF END IS TO GLORIFY GOD, AND TO ENJOY HIM FOREVER**

**-WE ARE TO BE JOYFUL IN WHATEVER CIRCUMSTANCE- JAMES 1:2**

**- GLORIFY THE LORD WITH OUR LIVES- SINCE WE WERE MADE IN THE IMAGO DEI- IMAGE OF GOD.**

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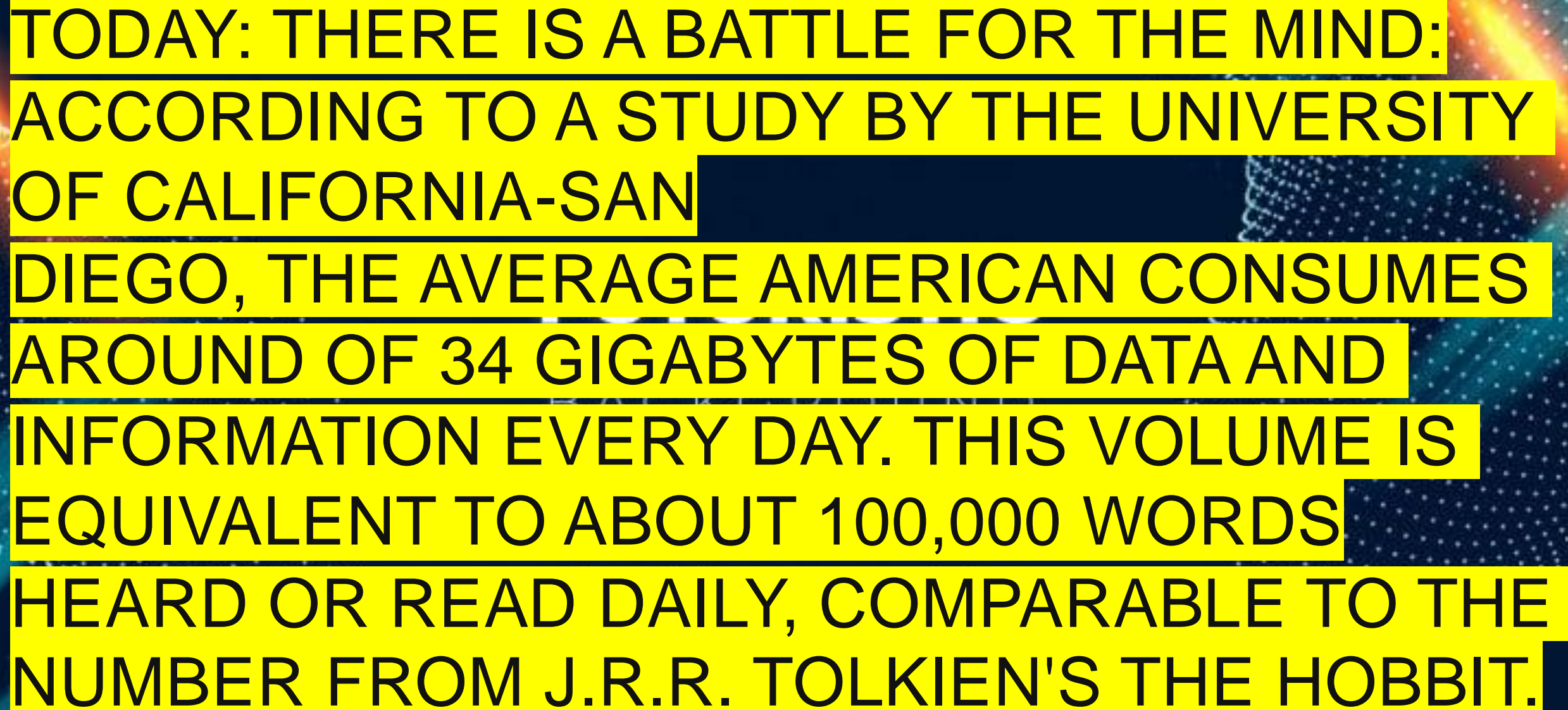


THE BATTLE THAT ENSUES

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**TEENS SPEND  
AVERAGE OF  
4.8 HOURS  
ON SOCIAL  
MEDIA PER DAY**

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TODAY: THERE IS A BATTLE FOR THE MIND:  
ACCORDING TO A STUDY BY THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA-SAN  
DIEGO, THE AVERAGE AMERICAN CONSUMES  
AROUND OF 34 GIGABYTES OF DATA AND  
INFORMATION EVERY DAY. THIS VOLUME IS  
EQUIVALENT TO ABOUT 100,000 WORDS  
HEARD OR READ DAILY, COMPARABLE TO THE  
NUMBER FROM J.R.R. TOLKIEN'S THE HOBBIT.



# 1. TRANSFORMING THE MIND STARTS WITH **REPENTANCE/ REGENERATION**

THE GREEK WORD FOR "REPENTANCE" DERIVES FROM A VERB MEANING "TO RADICALLY CHANGE ONE'S THINKING  
REPENTANCE IS PRODUCED BY THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IN THE REGENERATION AND SANCTIFICATION OF A SINNER



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ROMANS 8:5- 5 FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ACCORDING TO  
THE FLESH THINK ABOUT THE THINGS OF THE FLESH

8:9 .....BUT IF ANYONE DOES NOT HAVE THE SPIRIT  
OF CHRIST, HE DOES NOT BELONG TO HIM

8:14- 14 ALL THOSE LED BY GOD'S SPIRIT ARE GOD'S  
SONS.

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**1 CORINTHIANS 2:16**

**FOR WHO HAS KNOWN THE LORD'S MIND,  
THAT HE MAY INSTRUCT HIM? BUT WE  
HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST.**

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EXAMPLES OF CHANGED BEHAVIORS  
FOLLOWING REPENTANCE INCLUDE:

- ZACCHAEUS MAKING RESTITUTION FOR THE FRAUD HE COMMITTED AS PART OF HIS OCCUPATION (LUKE 19:1–10)
- PAUL PREACHING THE FAITH HE ONCE TRIED TO DESTROY (ACTS 9:1–28)
- ONESIMUS, THE RUNAWAY SLAVE, RETURNING TO HIS MASTER, PHILEMON, TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS ACTIONS (PHLM 8–16)



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43 "WHEN AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT COMES OUT OF A MAN, IT ROAMS THROUGH WATERLESS PLACES LOOKING FOR REST BUT DOESN'T FIND ANY. 44 THEN IT SAYS, 'I'LL GO BACK TO MY HOUSE THAT I CAME FROM.' AND RETURNING, IT FINDS THE HOUSE VACANT, SWEEPED, AND PUT IN ORDER.

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45 THEN OFF IT GOES AND BRINGS WITH IT SEVEN OTHER SPIRITS MORE EVIL THAN ITSELF, AND THEY ENTER AND SETTLE DOWN THERE. AS A RESULT, THAT MAN'S LAST CONDITION IS WORSE THAN THE FIRST. THAT'S HOW IT WILL ALSO BE WITH THIS EVIL GENERATION." TRUE RELATIONSHIPS

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# A. THE INSUFFICIENCY OF MORAL REFORMATION FOR SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION (MATT. 12:43-45)

NO AMOUNT OF SELF-HELP BOOKS, FRIENDS, DIETS, OR  
DISCIPLINES CAN CHANGE YOUR SPIRITUAL STATUS)

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# A. THE INSUFFICIENCY OF MORAL REFORMATION FOR SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION (MATT. 12:43-45)

NO AMOUNT OF SELF-HELP BOOKS, FRIENDS, DIETS, OR  
DISCIPLINES CAN CHANGE YOUR SPIRITUAL STATUS)  
NO EXTERNAL FACTOR CAN CHANGE INTERIOR HEARTS.

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46 HE WAS STILL SPEAKING TO THE CROWDS  
WHEN SUDDENLY HIS MOTHER AND  
BROTHERS WERE STANDING OUTSIDE  
WANTING TO SPEAK TO HIM. 47 SOMEONE  
TOLD HIM, "LOOK, YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR  
BROTHERS ARE STANDING OUTSIDE,  
WANTING TO SPEAK TO YOU."

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48 BUT HE REPLIED TO THE ONE WHO TOLD HIM,  
“WHO IS MY MOTHER AND WHO ARE MY  
BROTHERS?” 49 AND STRETCHING OUT HIS HAND  
TOWARD HIS DISCIPLES, HE SAID, “HERE ARE MY  
MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS! 50 FOR WHOEVER  
DOES THE WILL OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN, THAT  
PERSON IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND  
MOTHER.”

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## **B. THE INADEQUACY OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS**

**FOR SPIRITUAL FAMILY STATUS (12:46-50)**

**THE FAITH OF NOBODY ELSE CAN PLACE YOU IN THE  
FAMILY OF GOD. GOD HAS NO GRANDCHILDREN.**

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## 2. TRANSFORMING OF YOUR MIND COMES FROM THE WORD OF GOD

- 7 The instruction of the Lord is perfect, renewing one's life; the testimony of the Lord is trustworthy, making the inexperienced wise. 8 The precepts of the Lord are right, making the heart glad; the command of the Lord is radiant, making the eyes light up. 9 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are reliable and altogether righteous. Psalm 19:
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## 2. TRANSFORMING OF YOUR MIND COMES FROM TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD

- Psalm 1:2- Instead, his delight is in the Lord's instruction, and he meditates on it day and night.
- Joshua 1:8- This book of instruction must not depart from your mouth; you are to recite it day and night so that you may carefully observe everything written in it. For then you will prosper and succeed in whatever you do.
- Romans 12:2- Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

## 2. TRANSFORMING OF YOUR MIND COMES FROM TIME IN THE WORD OF GOD

- 9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping Your word. 10 I have sought You with all my heart; don't let me wander from Your commands. 11 I have treasured Your word in my heart so that I may not sin against You.

Psalm 119:9-11



GOD'S WORD  
TRANSFORMS THE  
LIVES OF THOSE  
WHO READ IT

The LAW OF  
*the* LORD  
is PERFECT  

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REVIVING  
*the* SOUL;



**Darrell B. Harrison** 

@D\_B\_Harrison

Read your Bible often. Whenever you have a free moment, even if only for a minute, read your Bible. It will help keep your mind and heart, the places where God does business with you, clean and pure. Take every opportunity to let God's Word dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16a).

Finally, brothers,  
whatever is true,  
whatever is honorable,  
whatever is just,  
whatever is pure,  
whatever is lovely,  
whatever is commendable,  
if there is any excellence,  
if there is anything  
worthy of praise,

**THINK  
ABOUT  
THESE  
THINGS.**

**PHILIPPIANS 4:8**





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### 3. TRANSFORMATION SHOWS ITS FRUIT IN THE MORTIFICATION OF SIN

- “Every unmortified sin will certainly do two things:— [1.] It will weaken the soul, and deprive it of its vigor. [2.] It will darken the soul, and deprive it of its comfort and peace. [1.]”  
— John Owen,
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**“LET NOT THAT MAN THINK HE  
MAKES ANY PROGRESS IN HOLINESS  
WHO WALKS NOT OVER THE  
BELLIES OF HIS LUSTS.”**

**— JOHN OWEN**

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“On Christ’s glory I would fix all my thoughts and desires,  
and the more I see of the glory of Christ, the more the  
painted beauties of this world will wither in my eyes and  
I will be more and more crucified to this world. It will  
become to me like something dead and putrid, impossible  
for me to enjoy.”

- John Owen



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12 THEREFORE, BROTHERS, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, I URGE YOU TO **PRESENT YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD**; THIS IS YOUR SPIRITUAL WORSHIP. 2 **DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS AGE, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND, SO THAT YOU MAY DISCERN WHAT IS THE GOOD, PLEASING, AND PERFECT WILL OF GOD.**

ROMANS 12:1-2

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# 1. WE CAN ONLY APPROACH GOD ON THE BASIS OF HIS MERCY

(YOU HAVE NOTHING THAT MAKES GOD NEED YOU, GOD DOESN'T NEED YOU. IT'S WHEN WE UNDERSTAND THIS, THAT WE CAN HUMBLY PROSTRATE BEFORE HIM IN GENUINE WORSHIP)

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**2. WE ARE CALLED TO BE HOLY IN EVERY ASPECT  
OF OUR LIFE (BODY, SOUL, MIND)**

**(NOT JUST YOUR SUNDAYS, YG TIME, OR EVENT TIME,  
NOT JUST YOUR PUBLIC APPEARANCES, ALL THE  
TIME, GOD DOESN'T WANT HYPE, HE CALLS US TO  
HOLINESS)**

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**3. TRUE WORSHIP IS DEFINED BY OBEDIENCE TO THE LORD AND NOT CONFORMITY TO THE WORLD. (THE FRUIT DEPENDS ON THE ROOT.)**

**WHEN WE FILL OUR MINDS WITH MINDLESS INFORMATION, WE ARE VALUING MORE THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD AND HEAPING ON THE SINFUL CONSEQUENCES/DISCIPLINE THAT OUR ACTIONS DESERVE.**

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4. A TRANSFORMED MIND IS NEEDED TO DISCERN THE WILL OF GOD. (IF YOU NEGLECT HIS WORD, YOU WON'T KNOW HIS WILL)

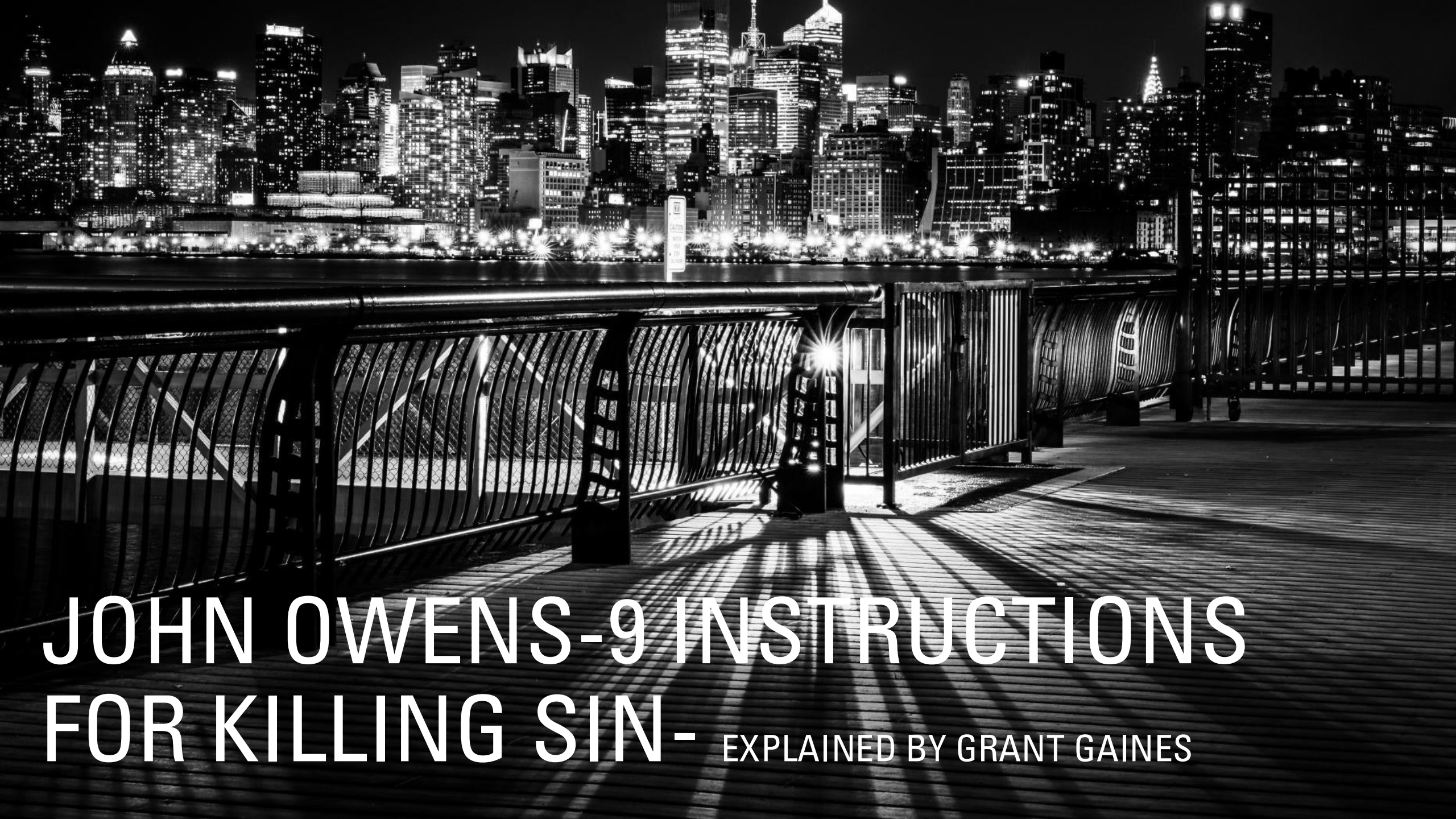
IF YOU HAVEN'T HEARD FROM GOD IN A WHILE, IS IT BECAUSE YOU HAVE AN INCONSISTENT QUIET TIME? OR, DO YOU JUMP AROUND THE BIBLE LOOKING FOR CONFIRMATION INSTEAD OF CONVICTION?

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“Be killing sin or it  
will be killing you.”

John Owen



# JOHN OWENS-9 INSTRUCTIONS FOR KILLING SIN- EXPLAINED BY GRANT GAINES

## **1. DIAGNOSE SIN'S SEVERITY.**

WHEN A PERSON HAS STRUGGLED WITH A SIN FOR A LONG TIME, IT'LL BE MORE DIFFICULT TO KILL. THIS IS ESPECIALLY THE CASE IF THERE HAVE BEEN LONG SEASONS WHEN THAT PERSON HAS INDULGED THE SIN RATHER THAN ACTIVELY TRYING TO KILL IT. MAKING EXCUSES, JUSTIFYING SINFUL BEHAVIOR, OR TOO QUICKLY APPLYING GRACE AND MERCY TO A SIN ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SIN'S SEVERITY AND LEAD TO A HARDENED HEART AND CONSCIENCE.

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## 2. GRASP SIN'S SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.

EVEN FOR THE CHRISTIAN, WHO HAS  
BEEN DECLARED RIGHTEOUS  
POSITIONALLY, SIN REMAINS  
DANGEROUS.

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OWEN OUTLINES FOUR DANGERS SIN POSES FOR THE BELIEVER:

A. BEING HARDENED BY SIN'S DECEITFULNESS,

B. GOD'S TEMPORAL DISCIPLINE,

C. LOSING PEACE AND STRENGTH,

D. THE DANGER OF ETERNAL DESTRUCTION—THAT BY CONTINUING IN SIN, ONE MAY PROVE HE WAS NEVER TRULY CONVERTED.

### **3. BE CONVINCED OF YOUR GUILT.**

**“LAY THY CORRUPTION TO IT, PRAY THAT THOU MAYST BE AFFECTED WITH IT.” MEDITATE ON BIBLICAL COMMANDS THAT SPEAK TO SIN’S SINFULNESS THEN ALSO CONSIDER YOUR SIN IN LIGHT OF THE CROSS. ASK YOURSELF, “WHY HAVE I GONE ON SINNING WHEN I’VE BEEN SHOWN SUCH GRACE AND MERCY? HOW CAN I SHOW SUCH CONTEMPT?”**

#### **4. EARNESTLY DESIRE DELIVERANCE.**

**WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? BECAUSE “LONGING, BREATHING, AND PANTING AFTER DELIVERANCE IS A GRACE IN ITSELF, THAT HATH A MIGHTY POWER TO CONFORM THE SOUL INTO THE LIKENESS OF THE THING LONGED AFTER.” INDEED, ACCORDING TO OWEN, “UNLESS THOU LONGEST FOR DELIVERANCE THOU SHALT NOT HAVE IT.”**



## 5. CONSIDER THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUR SINS AND YOUR NATURAL TEMPERAMENT.

EACH PERSON HAS A UNIQUE TEMPERAMENT AND NATURE THAT MAKES CERTAIN SINS HARDER TO KILL. OWEN REMINDS US, “A PRONENESS TO SOME SINS MAY DOUBTLESS LIE IN THE NATURAL TEMPER AND DISPOSITION OF MEN.” WE ARE NOT LESS GUILTY FOR COMMITTING THE SINS TO WHICH WE’RE PRONE, BUT WHEN WE KNOW OURSELVES, WE KNOW THE AREAS OF OUR LIVES WHERE GREATER SELF-DISCIPLINE IS NECESSARY (1 COR. 9:27).

## 6. AVOID OCCASIONS THAT INCITE SIN.

CONSIDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ATTEND YOUR FALLING INTO SIN, AND GUARD YOURSELF FROM THEM. “KNOW THAT HE THAT DARES TO DALLY WITH OCCASIONS OF SIN WILL DARE TO SIN,” SAYS OWEN. IF WE WANT TO STOP SINNING, WE MUST AVOID THE SLIPPERY PLACES THAT OCCASION OUR FALLS.

## **7. ADDRESS SIN'S FIRST SIGNS.**

**WE'LL BE MOST EFFECTIVE IN PUTTING SIN TO DEATH WHEN WE "RISE MIGHTILY AGAINST THE FIRST ACTINGS" OF OUR SINFUL DESIRES. IT'S HARD TO STOP WATER ONCE IT BURSTS INTO A FLOOD. SO TOO IT'S HARD TO STOP SIN IF WE ALLOW OUR DESIRE FOR IT TO GROW.**

## **8. MEDITATE ON GOD'S GLORY.**

we must not let it gain ground. instead, we must turn from our sin to “the excellency of the majesty of God.” when we see God’s glory, we’ll see our sin’s ugliness in contrast. Owen says it’s especially helpful to consider how much of god’s greatness we don’t know: “it is but a little portion we know of him.” it’s hard for sin to flourish in a heart filled with a sense of God’s majesty.

## 9. DON'T RUSH TO COMFORT YOURSELF.

Owen's final instruction comes in the form of a caution. though we may experience guilt and conviction over sin, we shouldn't assume the sin is defeated. sin is deceitful, and it can trick us into thinking we've dealt with it decisively when we have not. Owen warns us not to speak peace to ourselves before God speaks it (Jer. 6:14), but rather to "examine [ourselves], to see whether [we] are in the faith" (2 cor. 13:5).

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## #3 P'S

**1. PRIORITY- BUT SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOU. MATTHEW 6:33**

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## #3 P'S

**2.PERSPECTIVE-** SO IF YOU HAVE BEEN RAISED WITH THE MESSIAH, SEEK WHAT IS ABOVE, WHERE THE MESSIAH IS, SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD. 2 SET YOUR MINDS ON WHAT IS ABOVE, NOT ON WHAT IS ON THE EARTH. 3 FOR YOU HAVE DIED, AND YOUR LIFE IS HIDDEN WITH THE MESSIAH IN GOD. 4 WHEN THE MESSIAH, WHO IS YOUR LIFE, IS REVEALED, THEN YOU ALSO WILL BE REVEALED WITH HIM IN GLORY. COL. 3:1-4

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#3 P'S

## 3. PERSEVERANCE

3 AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT WE ALSO REJOICE IN OUR AFFLICTIONS, BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT AFFLICTION PRODUCES ENDURANCE, 4 ENDURANCE PRODUCES PROVEN CHARACTER, AND PROVEN CHARACTER PRODUCES HOPE. 5 THIS HOPE WILL NOT DISAPPOINT US, BECAUSE GOD'S LOVE HAS BEEN Poured OUT IN OUR HEARTS THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO WAS GIVEN TO US. ROMANS 5

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