

John Owen Quotes

*Men, Sin, Grace, Heart, Soul, Spiritual, World, Prayer, May, Christ, Christian,
Self, Eye, Mean, Believe, Lying, Mind, Jesus, Desire, Spirit*

Satan's greatest success is in making people think they have plenty of time before they die to consider their eternal welfare.

~John Owen

If private revelations agree with Scripture, they are needless, and if they disagree, they are false.

~John Owen

If we do not abide in prayer, we will abide in temptation.

~John Owen

Christ did not die for any upon condition, if they do believe; but He died for all God's elect, that they should believe.

~John Owen

Every time we say we believe in the Holy Spirit, we mean we believe that there is a living God able and willing to enter human personality and change it.

~John Owen

Be killing sin or it will be killing you.

~John Owen

We are never nearer Christ than when we find ourselves lost in a holy amazement at His unspeakable love.

~John Owen

The first and principal duty of a pastor is to feed the flock by diligent preaching of the word

~John Owen

We can have no power from Christ unless we live in a persuasion that we have none of our own.

~John Owen

If the Word does not dwell with power in us, it will not pass with power from us.

~John Owen

Temptation is like a knife, that may either cut the meat or the throat of a man; it may be his food or his poison, his exercise or his destruction

~John Owen

I do not understand how a man can be a true believer, in whom sin is not the greatest burden, sorrow and trouble.

~John Owen

If a man teach uprightly and walk crookedly, more will fall down in the night of his life than he built in the day of his doctrine.

~John Owen

The greatest sorrow and burden you can lay on the Father, the greatest unkindness you can do to him is not to believe that he loves you.

~John Owen

If Scripture has more than one meaning, it has no meaning at all.

~John Owen

A minister may fill his pews, his communion roll, the mouths of the public, but what that minister is on his knees in secret before God Almighty, that he is and no more.

~John Owen

We speak much of God, can talk of him, his ways, his works, his counsels, all the day long; the truth is, we know very little of him.

~John Owen

The more I see of the glory of Christ, the more the painted beauties of this world will wither in my eyes.

~John Owen

Faith, if it be a living faith, will be a working faith.

~John Owen

Nothing shall be lost that is done for God or in obedience to Him.

~John Owen

For to pretend that men may live habitually sinful lives without any attempt by the Spirit to mortify sin in them, nor with any desire for repentance, is to deny the Christian religion.

~John Owen

Unless we are thoroughly convinced that without Christ we are under the eternal curse of God, as the worst of His enemies, we shall never flee to Him for refuge.

~John Owen

If we would talk less and pray more about them, things would be better than they are in the world: at least, we should be better enabled to bear them.

~John Owen

Pardon comes not to the soul alone; or rather, Christ comes not to the soul with pardon only! It is that which He opens the door and enters by, but He comes with a Spirit of life and power.

~John Owen

Temptations and occasions put nothing into a man, but only draw out what was in him before.

~John Owen

Christ's blood is the great sovereign remedy for sin-sick souls.

~John Owen

We shall not benefit from reading the Old Testament unless we look for and meditate on the glory of Christ in its pages.

~John Owen

We must not be concerned only with that which troubles us, but with all that troubles God.

~John Owen

There is no death of sin without the death of Christ.

~John Owen

Fill your affections with the cross of Christ that there may be no room for sin.

~John Owen

A true saving knowledge of sin is to be had only in the Lord Christ: in him may we see the desert of our iniquities.

~John Owen

Indwelling sin always abides whilst we are in this world; therefore it is always to be mortified.

~John Owen

Did you never run for shelter in a storm, and find fruit which you expected not? Did you never go to God for safeguard, driven by outward storms, and there find unexpected fruit?

~John Owen

As a tender and loving friend is grieved at the unkindness of his friend... so is it with this tender and loving Spirit, who hath chosen our hearts for a habitation to dwell in.

~John Owen

Before the work of grace the heart is 'stony.' It can do no more than

a stone can do to please God.

~John Owen

To suppose that whatever God requireth of us that we have power of ourselves to do, is to make the cross and grace of Jesus Christ of none effect.

~John Owen

It is one thing to fear God as threatening, with a holy reverence, and another to be afraid of the evil threatened.

~John Owen

To those to whom Christ is the hope of future glory, he is also the life of present grace.

~John Owen

The good Lord send out a spirit of mortification to cure our distempers, or we are in a sad condition!

~John Owen

He who prays as he ought will endeavor to live as he prays.

~John Owen

A man may be carried on in a constant course of mortification all his days; and yet perhaps never enjoy a good day of peace and consolation.

~John Owen

Unless men see a beauty and delight in the worship of God, they will not do it willingly.

~John Owen

No man shall ever behold the glory of Christ by sight hereafter who does not in some measure behold it here by faith.

~John Owen

The indulgence of one sin opens the door to further sins. The indulgence of one sin diverts the soul from the use of those means by which all other sins should be resisted.

~John Owen

There is no true gospel fruit without faith and repentance.

~John Owen

The most tremendous judgment of God in this world is the hardening of the hearts of men.

~John Owen

The seed of every sin is in every heart.

~John Owen

Let no man pretend to fear sin that does not fear temptation also! These two are too closely united to be separated. He does not truly hate the fruit who delights in the root.

~John Owen

There wanted not some beams of light to guide men in the exercise of their Stocastick faculty.

~John Owen

See in the meantime that your faith brings forth obedience, and God in due time will cause it to bring forth peace.

~John Owen

What then is holiness? Holiness is nothing but the implanting, writing and living out of the gospel in our souls (Eph 4:24).

~John Owen

Christ is the meat, the bread, the food of our souls. Nothing is in him of a higher spiritual nourishment than his love, which we should always desire.

~John Owen

He that is more frequent in his pulpit to his people than he is in his closet for his people, is but a sorry watchman.

~John Owen

Mortification from a self-strength, carried on by ways of self-invention, unto the end of a self-righteousness, is the soul and substance of all false religion in the world.

~John Owen

There is no broader way to apostasy than to reject God's sovereignty in all things concerning the revelation of himself and our obedience.

~John Owen

Christ greatly delights in his people and they greatly delight in him

~John Owen

Sin is never less quiet than when it seems to be most quiet.

~John Owen

So great an advantage is given to sin and Satan by your temper and disposition, that without extraordinary watchfulness, care, and diligence, they will prevail against your soul.

~John Owen

Whatever vices and corruptions men see in the lives of their ministers will not be attributed to the depravity of their old nature which still abides in them, but to the gospel.

~John Owen

Steadfastness in believing doth not exclude all temptations from without. When we say a tree is firmly rooted, we do not say the wind never blows upon it.

~John Owen

Christ so loves his people that he sings with joy over them.

~John Owen

Then are we servants of God, then are we the disciples of Christ, when we do what is commanded us and because it is commanded us.

~John Owen

Do you mortify; do you make it your daily work; be always at it whilst you live; cease not a day from this work; be killing sin or it will be killing you.

~John Owen

It is evident that you contend against sin merely because of how it troubles you.

~John Owen

He works in us and with us, not against us or without us; so that his assistance is an encouragement to the facilitating of the work, and no occasion of neglect as to the work itself.

~John Owen

All spiritual acts well-pleasing unto God, as faith, repentance, obedience, are supernatural; flesh and blood revealeth not these things.

~John Owen

No heart can conceive that treasury of mercies which lies in this one privilege, in having liberty and ability to approach unto God at all times, according to his mind and will.

~John Owen

We ought as much to pray for a blessing upon our daily rod as upon our daily bread.

~John Owen

Free will is "corrupted nature's deformed darling, the Pallas or beloved self-conception of darkened minds"

~John Owen

The pretended desires of many to behold the glory of Christ in heaven, who have no view of it by faith while they are here in this world, are nothing but self-deceiving imaginations.

~John Owen

The mortification of indwelling sin remaining in our mortal bodies, that it may not have life and power to bring forth the works or deeds of the flesh is the constant duty of believers.

~John Owen

This day was yesterday to-morrow nam'd: To-morrow shall be yesterday proclaimed: To-morrow not yet come, not far away, What shall to-morrow then be call'd? To-day.

~John Owen

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.

~John Owen

He that hath slight thoughts of sin, never had great thoughts of God.

~John Owen

All attempts, then, for mortification of any lust, without an interest in

Christ, are vain.

~John Owen

Christ by his death destroying the works of the devil, procuring the Spirit for us, hath so killed sin, as to its reign in believers, that it shall not obtain its end and dominion.

~John Owen

It is truth alone that capacitates any soul to glorify God.

~John Owen

The custom of sinning takes away the sense of it, the course of the world takes away the shame of it.

~John Owen

It is often those who are despised and trampled on that bear up the weight of a whole nation.

~John Owen

God never intended for us to be left to pray on our own. God never changes His purpose, but He often does purpose a change.

~John Owen

All other ways of mortification are vain, all helps leave us helpless; it must be done by the Spirit.

~John Owen

Labour to grow better under all your afflictions, lest your afflictions grow worse, lest God mingle them with more darkness, bitterness and terror.

~John Owen

The vigour, and power, and comfort of our spiritual life depends on the mortification of the deeds of the flesh.

~John Owen

All things I thought I knew; but now confess
The more I know, I know, I know, I know the less.

~John Owen

The root of an unmortified course is the digestion of sin without bitterness in the heart.

~John Owen

That wisdom which cannot teach me that God is love, shall ever pass for folly.

~John Owen

You have your season, and you have but your season; neither can you lie down in peace, until you have some persuasion that your work as well as your life is at an end.

~John Owen

A natural man hath no such thing as free-will at all, if you take it for a power of doing that which is good and well-pleasing unto God in things spiritual.

~John Owen

Christ is our best friend, and ere long will be our only friend. I pray God with all my heart that I may be weary of everything else but converse and communion with Him.

~John Owen

A man may easier see without eyes, speak without a tongue, than truly mortify one sin without the Spirit.

~John Owen

To kill sin is the work of living men; where men are dead (as all unbelievers, the best of them, are dead), sin is alive, and will live.

~John Owen

Mortification is the soul's vigorous opposition to self, wherein sincerity is most evident.

~John Owen

Assurance encourateth us in our combat; it delivers us not from it. We may have peace with God when we have done from the assaults of Satan.

~John Owen

We are taught in an especial manner to pray that God would give his Holy Spirit unto us, that through his aid and assistance we may live unto God in that holy obedience which he requires at our hands.

~John Owen

Temptation gains power where we see it prevail in others we know and we express neither shock or hatred of them and their ways nor pity and prayer for their deliverance.

~John Owen

Let not that man think he makes any progress in holiness who walks not over the bellies of his lusts. He who doth not kill sin in this way takes no steps toward his journey's end.

~John Owen

He that stands still and suffers his enemies to double blows upon him without resistance, will undoubtedly be conquered in the issue.

~John Owen

Now nothing can prevent this but mortification; that withers the root and strikes at the head of sin every hour, so that whatever it aims at it is crossed in.

~John Owen

He that loves works out good to those that he loves, as he is able.

God's power and will are equal; what He wills He works.

~John Owen

When sin lets us alone we may let sin alone.

~John Owen

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