

- Dependence on the Holy Spirit is an active not a passive response to sin.

**V. The fruit of killing off sin is the enjoyment of a godly life (“you will live”).**

- Overcoming sin (pulling sin up by its roots) will yield the harvest of a fruitful life.
  
- Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control make one’s life sweet, satisfying, and Christ-exalting.

**Conclusion – How should we then live?**

## **Killing off Sin - Part I**

### **Romans 8:12-13**

**I. Killing off sin is the obligation of every believer in Jesus Christ.**

- We do not owe our sinful nature anything.
  
- We owe it to the Holy Spirit to live according to the Holy Spirit.
  
- The flesh (our sinful nature) is an enemy within that stalks our every move.

**II. Killing off sin is the seeking out and putting to death every desire, thought, word, and deed that is contrary to God’s moral law.**

- This is vital to the life to which Jesus has called those who belong to Him (Mk. 8:34).
  
- The sin-driven, self-serving “deeds of the body” must be executed.

- The execution of sinful practices takes personal initiative. We are responsible for taking up our God-given weapons and using them to slay sin.
- The execution of sin calls for radical strategic action (e.g., gouging out offending eyes, and cutting off offending feet and hands).
  - The radical strategy of sin-slaying involves a strong frontal assault and effective maneuvers in the defeat of sin.
  - The radical strategy of sin-slaying involves setting our desires on God and occupying our thoughts with biblical truth.

### **III. The failure to kill off sin will result in death.**

- Interpretations (“if you are living according to the flesh, you must die”):
  - Interpretation #1 – Refers to the possibility of a Christian losing his salvation

- Interpretation #2 – Refers to the “indispensability of holy living as the precondition for attaining that life (eternal life).” “If you live like a non-Christian...you will perish like a non-Christian- because you are a non-Christian.”
- Interpretation #3 – Refers “a sin unto death” (i.e., sin unto physical death).
- Interpretation # 4 – Refers to the loss of the enjoyment of a godly life (“he will not enjoy his spiritual life...unable to enjoy the indwelling presence of the Spirit.”)
- The weeds of sin when allowed to grow will choke out the fruit of the Spirit. Grieving the Spirit results in the loss of the fullness of life the Spirit gives.

### **IV. Killing off sin is accomplished by dependence on the Holy Spirit (“but if by the Spirit”).**

- The Holy Spirit gives the “desire, determination, and discipline” to execute sin.