

Introduction: (1) Briefly reviewing vv1-11 to show the conclusion stated in v12. (2) This followed by a brief consideration of vv12-13a. ...

Our former relationship with “sin in the flesh” (v3) was self-centered & fleetingly gratifying, appealing to our fleshly senses. Now, our relationship with Christ Jesus is God-centered & endlessly gratifying, appealing to our spiritual senses.

LIFE ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT OF GOD

Four essential life-characteristics of those who live according to the Spirit

1A Believers mortify well - *by the Spirit, v13*; **2A** Believers obey well - *by the Spirit, v14*; **3A** Believers speak well - *by the Spirit, v15*; **4A** Believers listen well - *by the Spirit, v16*, (which brings them comfort & assurance). ... The Spirit indwells us *to work in us according to God's will*.

I only want to deal with the first main point this morning—focusing only on v13.

1A BELIEVERS MORTIFY WELL – BY THE SPIRIT, v13

1B What “*putting to death*” generally means

2B There’s a difference between what’s *been* put to death & what *remains* to put to death.

3B Our Lord Jesus teaches us that the source of sin arises from within our own hearts.
(Paul develops this teaching further in his epistles)

4B The Lord also teaches us to cut off/out body members that offend.
(Paul also develops this teaching of the Lord in his epistles)

APPL: Things to consider in “putting to death” the deeds of the flesh by the Spirit

1) We put to death sinful deeds in the heart before they are acted out.

2) We don’t ignore or entertain sinful thoughts, etc.

3) We subdue sinful thoughts, etc., when they arise – by the Spirit & with Scripture.

4) We cultivate godly habits in their place – humbly & prayerfully.