

One Dead Fly

by Thomas Brooks

The sermon emphasizes the importance of dealing with sin in our lives, as one sin can have eternal consequences and damn a person forever.

Scripture: Leviticus 14:44, Ecclesiastes 10:1

Topics: "Hypocrisy", "Sin"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes the danger of harboring even a single sin, likening it to a dead fly that spoils a box of precious ointment. He warns that no hypocrite is completely free from the love of sin, as they often cling to secret lusts that can lead to spiritual death. Brooks illustrates that just as one disease can be fatal, one sin can condemn a soul, making it essential to address any sin in our lives to avoid spiritual leprosy. He urges listeners to recognize that allowing even one sin can lead to eternal damnation, just as one hole in a ship can sink it.

Transcript

No hypocrite is totally divorced from the love and liking of every known sin. There is still some secret lust, which as a sweet morsel he rolls under his tongue, and will not spit it out. Every hypocrite lives under the dominion and reign of one base lust or another--and will do what he can to save the life of his sin--though it be with the loss of his soul. A hypocrite always reserves one nest-egg or another in his heart or life, for Satan to sit and brood on.

O sirs! Satan can hold a man fast enough by one sin, as the fowler can hold the bird fast enough by one claw.

Satan knows, that one sin lived in and allowed, will as

certainly damn a man as many sins; just as one disease, one ulcerous part, may as certainly kill a man as many. One dead fly will mar the whole box of precious ointment. One jarring string will bring the sweetest music out of tune. If the leper in the law had the spot of leprosy in any one part of his body, he was accounted a leper; although all the rest of his body was sound and whole, Lev. 14. Just so, he who has the spot of the leprosy of sin allowed in any one part of his soul, he is a spiritual leper in the eye of God; he is unclean, though in other parts he may not be unclean.

If a swine does but wallow in one miry or dirty hole--it is filthy; and certainly, that soul which does but wallow in any one sin--he is filthy in the eye of God.

O sirs! remember that . . .

as one hole in a ship will sink it, and

as one stab at the heart will kill a man, and

as one glass of poison will poison a man, and

as one act of treason will make a man a traitor,

so one sin lived in and allowed, will damn a man forever!

One millstone will sink a man to the bottom of the sea as well as a hundred. Just so, one sin lived in and indulged, will sink a man to the bottom of hell as well as a hundred.

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