

LESSON V.

ON SIN AND PURGATORY.

Q. What is sin?

A. Any wilful thought, word, deed, or omission, contrary to the Law of God.

Q. What is original sin?

A. The sin we inherit from our first parents, and in which we were conceived and born *Children of wrath.*—*Ephes. ii. 3.*

Q. Who were our first parents?

A. Adam and Eve, the first man and woman.

Q. What is mortal sin?

A. A grievous offence or transgression against the law of God.

Q. Why is it called mortal?

A. Because it kills the soul, by depriving it of its true life, which is sanctifying grace; and because it brings everlasting death and damnation on the soul.

Q. Does venial sin deprive the soul of sanctifying grace and deserve everlasting punishment?

A. No; but it hurts the soul, by lessening its love for God, and by disposing to mortal sin. The Scripture says, *He that contemneth small things shall fall by little and little.* *Ecclus. xix. 1.*

Q. Is it a great misfortune to fall into mortal sin?

A. It is the greatest of all misfortunes.

Q. Where shall they go who die in mortal sin?

A. To Hell for all eternity.

Q. Where shall they go who die in venial sin?

A. To Purgatory.

Q. What is Purgatory?

A. A place of punishment in the other life, where some souls suffer for a time before they can go to Heaven.

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