

holy christianity. Another mode of sowing to the flesh is indulging in games and sports, the varieties of which are so numerous.

Having thus briefly described some of the principal modes of "sowing to the flesh," the next subject in the text for consideration and remark, is the harvest reaped from all such sowing. It is described in the text by the one repulsive, but comprehensive term, "corruption." This word does not *here* mean the decomposition and corruption of the body, for these take place after death, in the bodies of the righteous, the same as in those of the sensual and wicked. The word is evidently in contrast with the expression, "everlasting life,"—the portion or harvest of those who have "sown to the spirit." The word "reap," in the text, evidently signifies "enjoyment, or punishment in another world." The word "*corruption*," therefore, as applied in the text to the "sower to the flesh," means his reaping or receiving as his harvest, eternal punishment, "in the lake of fire," frequently called in scripture, "the second death," because there is no resurrection or deliverance from it.

Let us now pass on to consider first, what is meant by "sowing to the spirit," and what it comprehends; and then view the present and future circumstances of him who sows in that direction. The expression includes a large number of most important subjects, relating to affections and principles, and external conduct. The word Spirit, here evidently means the Holy Spirit, one of the persons in the glorious and eternal Deity. In order to attain the "eternal life" promised in the text, there is a necessity for sowing to this Divine Spirit, or in other words, seeking and earnestly striving to obtain His operations and influence. This necessity arises from the native condition of all mankind since the first transgression, being as scripturally shown, corrupt, depraved, alienated from God, and consequently exposed to His wrath and just condemnation and punishment, in the future and eternal world. These awful truths are so clearly and fully declared in the sacred scriptures, that for persons possessing ordinary knowledge of them, no citations of texts on those points need be given. The absolute necessity of a spiritual change in the nature and character of man, in order to his reconciliation with his Maker, and acceptance to His favor, are with equal precision and certainty