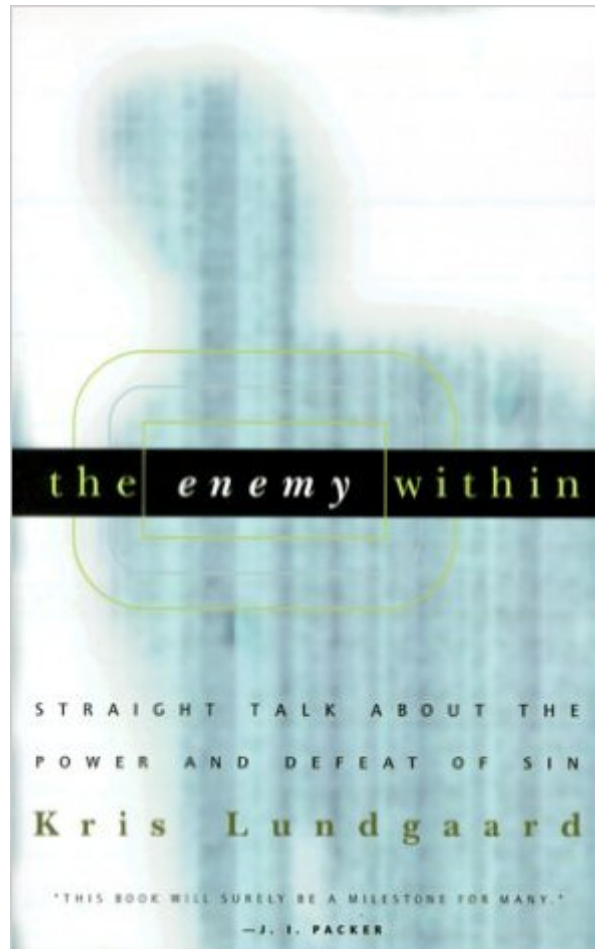


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# The Enemy Within: Straight Talk About The Power And Defeat Of Sin



## Synopsis

How would you like to fight an enemy who, just as you have him on the ropes, always evades the final blow? An enemy who hides just out of reach, lulling you into a false sense of security, until he drops from nowhere onto your back? That's the advantage of indwelling sin; it lurks in an unsearchable fortress where you can't get to it. But if God has redeemed us from sin; and given us his Holy Spirit to sanctify us and give us strength against sin; why do we go on sinning? Drawing from two masterful works by English theologian John Owen, Kris Lundgaard takes aim at the enemy within. He shares his discovery of hope, renewed love for Christ, an approach to holiness by faith in him.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is commendable on several fronts in spite of the fact that it reads a bit awkwardly. Lundgaard admits that many of his ideas are Owen's and it shows. Many times I pulled out Owen's work on Indwelling Sin and could find the exact line that drove Lundgaard's point. This book's strengths lie in the author's treatment of 'how indwelling sin works', but in my judgment fails to offer a complete solution for how a believer is to effectively 'work against sin.' This book is not without strengths, nor should it be as Lundgaard admittedly nearly plagiarizes Owen entirely.<sup>1</sup>) The author's summary of Owen's description of the power of sin is excellent (Part One). I quickly commend the arguments and illustrations. I'm especially grateful for the 'Four Key Truths' from Romans 7:21 as I find them to be paradigmatic of how sin works. Though the author barely develops these ideas enough to satisfy even the least critical mind, these insights are worth the

price of the book.2.) An additional strength of this book is the updated, modern illustrations. Though it always felt as if the author was in a hurry or under a strict length constraint, the illustrations, many of which are from great classical literature, are simple, vivid and helpful. It is only their brevity that makes some of them feel awkward and overstated.3.) Lundgaard (and Owen) take indwelling sin very seriously. This may be so obvious that it is not worth mentioning, but I believe that the gravity of the subject makes it especially commendable. I would venture to suggest that so many people have found this book to be refreshing and valuable simply because it is one of few books that grapples honestly with agonizing presence of indwelling sin in the lives of believers.

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