Can You Trust your Conscience? Part 1

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I. Introduction.
   B. Good conscience and faith are related.

II. A conscience is a universal gift from God.
   A. Our conscience is something that helps us distinguish between right and wrong.
   B. Conscience operates based on how it is programmed.
   C. Eve ignored her alarm system. (Genesis 3)
   D. Whenever we sin, we violate God’s alarm system. (Romans 1)
   E. Everyone believes in right and wrong to some extent—the law is written in those hearts that do not receive revelation because God has implanted the conscience.

III. The Holy Spirit works with the conscience to guide us.
   A. The Spirit is a person—the conscience is not.
   B. Those non-Christians without the Spirit have a conscience but they do not have the Spirit to urge them to do right after the alarm goes off.
   C. The conscience is programmed—when it is ignored, the system is fouled up.

IV. For one to ignore the conscience is to invite disaster.
   A. When the alarm of the conscience is no longer heard, the conscience has been ruined. (I Timothy 4)
   B. Those whose conscience has been ruined have made a shipwreck of their life.

Application questions:

1. What is the conscience?

2. Why is it not good enough to have a conscience?
3. How would you explain the role of the Holy Spirit with regard to the conscience?