

A Biblical View of the Conscience

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: 2 Corinthians 1:12.

B. The conscience is the soul's warning system.

C. It is a tremendous gift from God. It is an ability to recognize sin.

D. Conscience distinguishes human beings.

E. To reject conscience is spiritual tragedy.

F. Conscience enlightened by God's Word holds us to the highest standard.

G. The conscience can be defiled.

H. The conscience is not infallible, but it does respond to the highest standard that a person believes.

1. The conscience does not produce its own light.

2. The conscience lets light in.

3. We have to be careful not to defile the conscience. (1 Corinthians 8:10, Titus 1:15)

I. The conscience is a thousand witnesses. It uncovers everything.

II. Everyone has a conscience, but the heart is sprinkled clean from an evil conscience when a person becomes a believer. (Hebrews 10)

A. The blood of Jesus cleanses the conscience.

B. It is important for the Christian to continue maintaining a clean conscience. (Acts 24:16, 1 Timothy 1:5, 2 Timothy 1:3, 1 Timothy 1:18-19, 3:9)

III. No believer has the right to violate the conscience. (1 Corinthians 8:9)

IV. The ultimate defense is a clear conscience before God. (Jeremiah 9:23, 1 Corinthians 1:31, 2 Corinthians 10:17)

V. Jesus came to save us from sin. One of the greatest pains in hell will be that coming from the conscience.

Application Questions:

1. What is the conscience?

2. Why is it important to recognize that the conscience is not the source of truth? What is?

3. If Jesus has cleansed the believer's conscience at conversion, why is it important to keep the conscience clean? Explain.
