

Title: A Good Conscience is a Blessing From God

Scripture: I Timothy 1:18-20

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I Timothy 1:18: "This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; 19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: 20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme."

A Good Conscience is a feeling or obligation to know what's right and what's wrong.

1. **Our conscience is a gift from God.** We are the only one of God's creatures with a conscience. We make our decisions based on our conscience. The first time a conscience was shown in the Bible is in Genesis 3. When our conscience is acting of God, we are at peace.
2. **There is proof that everyone has a conscience:** Romans 1:18-21 describes how we are all accountable for our actions. *"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 ¶ Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."*
3. **You can dull your conscience so that it doesn't bother you anymore:** Romans 1:21-25 says *"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. 24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."* When a person ignores their conscience, they become ineffective of determining what's right and what's wrong. A person can do all church actions and still be in sin in the heart. When the conscience dulls, it begins to get darker and darker. The thoughts become dark and wicked. A person doesn't care if they sin. They become reprobate (bored over judgment). Our society's conscience has dulled. Our laws are evident of this.
4. **The Holy Spirit and your conscience:** John 16:13: *"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."* The Holy Spirit is not man's conscience. They work in conjunction to one another, we must obey what's right. We can know that it is wrong to murder, and we should obey that thought. The Holy Spirit is always right.
5. **Can your conscience be your guide?:** Romans 12:1-2 says: *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* Is it safe to listen to your conscience? Yes and No. It depends on who is programming it. Is yours programmed by Satan or by God?