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The conscience is the <u>inward witness</u> of God to your heart which either accuses or excuses your actions.

Romans 2:15

¹⁵in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,

Acts 24:16

"I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man"

1 Corinthians 8:10-12 (KJV) ¹⁰ For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; ¹¹ And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? ¹² But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.

1 Corinthians 8:10-12 (my paraphrase) For example, suppose someone with a weak conscience sees you, who have this reasoning, doing recreational drugs. Won't you be encouraging that person to try recreational drugs? 11 In that case, your reasoning is ruining a believer who doesn't know better, a believer for whom Christ died. 12 When you sin against other believers in this way and harm their weak consciences, you are sinning against Christ.

Titus 1:15

"Unto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled."

Matthew 6:22-23

22"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

1Timothy 4:2

"speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron." 1 Timothy 1:18-19 (NIV)

Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight, ¹⁹ holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.

Hebrews 10:22

"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Isaiah 5:20

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

Acts 24:16

"I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man"

a) A clear conscience is to be void of <u>offense</u> toward God, and toward men.

b) A clear conscience is to be <u>free</u> from regret, guilt and condemnation.

1 John 3:21 (NKJV)

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

Romans 9:1 (NKJV) I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit,

c) A clear conscience is a blameless conscience.

II. What is the Value of a Clear Conscience?

A good conscience gives you blessed <u>Assurance</u>

Hebrews 10:19-22 NIV 19Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

II. What is the Value of a Clear Conscience?

A good conscience gives you Boldness

Proverbs 28:1

"The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion."

II. What is the Value of a Clear Conscience?

A good conscience gives you Confidence

Acts 4:13 (NASB77)

Now as they observed the <u>confidence</u> of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.

Acts 4:29 (NASB77)

"And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Thy bondservants may speak Thy word with all confidence,

Acts 28:31 (NKJV)

preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all <u>confidence</u>, no one forbidding him.

III. How can I Have a Clear Conscience?

Admit you don't have a clear conscience.

Titus 1:15

Hebrews 9:14

"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge (cleanse) your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

I John 1:7

"the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sins."

III. How can I Have a Clear Conscience?

Be in the Word, B<u>elieve</u> the Word of God

2 Cor 7:1

Ephesians 5:26 and Titus 3:5

Only God the Holy Spirit can sanctify and cleanse us with the washing of water by the Word.

III. How can I Have a Clear Conscience?

Confess your dependence upon the Holy Spirit daily to keep a clear Conscience. Ps 32:1-7; Rom 9:1; Heb 9:14

Psalm 119:59

"I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto Thy testimonies."

Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)

³You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *Whose* mind *is* stayed *on* You, Because he trusts in You.

THE SOFTEST OF PILLOWS

a clear conscience!