

# THE TESTIMONY OF OUR CONSCIENCE

## I. The testimony of our conscience

- A. 2 Cor. 1:12
- B. Heb. 9:14
- C. 1 Tim. 1:18-20

## II. What is the conscience?

A. The moral law of the mind that judges right and wrong Rm. 7:23

1. Every man has a conscience though perverted by the Fall.
2. This is why the Holy Ghost has to convict us John 16:8-11
3. It may be enlightened or unenlightened – acts by the light it has

B. It functions by bearing witness or giving testimony

1. BEFORE - prompting the right act/warning against the wrong
2. AFTER – excusing if we did right/accusing if we did wrong Rm. 2:15

C. Conscience can be good, evil, or weak;;

1. Good – pure; void of offense to God & man 1 Tim. 1:19
2. Evil: defiled /guilty; seared /unresponsive Heb. 10:22; Tit.1:15; 1Tim.4:2
3. Weak – overly strict, scrupulous, and minutely careful; uninformed & unenlightened 1 Cor.8:12

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## III. The Holy Ghost and our conscience Rom. 9:1

A. The Word of God and Holy Ghost need inform and enlighten our conscience so we feel conviction in line with God's moral law.

1. The more softened - the more conviction it provides; and faster we notice it; less permission we give ourselves to sin
2. The more seared – the less conviction we feel; and the slower we notice it; more permission we give ourselves to sin.
3. The Holy Ghost bears witness through our conscience and when enlightened it will convict us in line with the Word

B. Keep a clear and tender conscience

1. Acts 23:1
2. Acts 24:16