

CONSCIENCE I Thessalonians 5:23

Conscience – The Greek word for conscience is *suneidesis* (soon-i'-day-sis), which means “knowing ones self,” makes judgments of right and wrong of our actions. The conscience is that which the mind uses to pass judgment on the morality or immorality of its own actions.

THE CONSCIENCE IN ACTION

Proverbs 20:27 God has given to every person a mind in which He enlightens with a mechanism that allows us to distinguish good from evil. The conscience searches the innermost recesses of the soul.

I Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 4:12 Notice how Paul prays that the entire person, (body, soul, and spirit) will stay blameless for the coming of the Lord and in Hebrews he mentions that God's word penetrates the body, soul and spirit of mankind and discerns for us good or evil motives.

John 1:9; James 1:17 A famous bible commentator writes this of the conscience; “Conscience is God's deputy in the soul, a candle lighted by God and for God. God the Father is therefore called “the Father of lights.” The spirit of man's conscience searches the soul, praising what is good, condemning the bad. This is the office of the conscience, judging the good and the bad and the intents of the heart.

Romans 1:19-20; 2:14-16 Here are some serious verses that show the importance of allowing the gift of conscience to help us make wise decisions as mankind will be without excuse at judgment time.

John 8:9; Acts 23:1; Romans 9:1; I Timothy 1:5; I Corinthians 11:31 Our conscience is an ever present witness of our conduct and compels us to judge our own actions and therefore should motivate us to do honorable deeds. However, the conscience may be enlightened or unenlightened and perverted.

THE CONSCIENCE OF THE BIBLE

John 8:9; Romans 2:15 The conscience convicts us of sin as we allow it to do what God intended.

Hebrews 9:14; 10:22 In order to keep a pure conscience and be able to “draw near to God” our conscience must be regularly cleaned and washed in the precious blood of our dear Savior (**I Jn. 1:9**).

Acts 23:1; 24:16; I Timothy 1:19 We are warned that in order to live a faithful life and serve God we must keep our faith strong and our conscience clean. Many believers lose their testimony because they have allowed their conscience and their faith to be less than what God demands in their lives.

Romans 13:5-8; I Peter 2:19 A good conscience will motivate us toward good things for God.

Ephesians 4:19; I Timothy 4:2 The phrase “seared with a hot iron” is just one word in the Greek. It is a word that we get our word in English “cauterize”. It has the meaning of being branded, calloused.

I Corinthians 8:6-7; Titus 1:15 The conscience of believers and non-believers alike can be defiled – (to make unclean, impure, to render foul or dirty).

THE CONSCIENCE CONTROLLED

I Timothy 1:19; 3:9 The best way toward a good, clean conscience is to study God's word because it is by the word of God our faith is increased.

II Corinthians 1:12; Hebrews 5:14; 13:18 As we live out a pure testimony day to day for God it is through obedience to the word of God that our conscience is kept pure and clean.

Acts 24:16 Paul tells us that it takes work, (exercise) to keep oneself clean and to continually have a healthy and pure conscience both with God and with those he comes in contact with on a daily basis.