

Conscience

Spirit	Soul	Body
New Birth	Mind	See
Communicates with God	Emotions	Smell
Power of God comes through our Spirit	Conscience	Taste
	Personality	Hear
	Will	Feel

Conscience n. the sense or consciousness of the moral goodness or blameworthiness of one's own conduct, intentions, or character together with a feeling of obligation to do right or be good

Our conscience became activated when Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit.

Genesis 3:10

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

Adam had a guilty conscience, so he sewed leaves for clothes and hid from God. He was ashamed of his nakedness. Our conscience is where we feel the sting of guilt from sin.

We get a glimpse of how God sees our conscience when Abimelech takes Sarah from Abraham.

Genesis 20:2-6

2 and there Abraham said of his wife Sarah, "She is my sister." Then Abimelech king of Gerar sent for Sarah and took her.

3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream one night and said to him, "You are as good as dead because of the woman you have taken; she is a married woman."

4 Now Abimelech had not gone near her, so he said, "Lord, will you destroy an innocent nation? 5 Did he not say to me, 'She is my sister,' and didn't she also say, 'He is my brother'?" I have done this with a clear conscience and clean hands."

6 Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know you did this with a clear conscience, and so I have kept you from sinning against me. That is why I did not let you touch her.

Conscience

Abimelech had a clean conscience because he acted under the moral guidelines of the time. God confirms his clean conscience in verse 6. This occurred before the Ten Commandments were given. Abimelech had a strong conscience and very little guilt.

In the New Testament, we can have a clean conscience once we are born again and are cleansed from our sins.

Acts 23:1,2

Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, “My brothers, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day.”² At this the high priest Ananias ordered those standing near Paul to strike him on the mouth.

Why was Paul struck for stating he served God with a good conscience? Under the Old Testament Law you still had guilt, your sins were only covered. In the New Testament our sins are blotted out by the blood of Jesus. We have no more guilt. Paul's good conscience struck a nerve with the religious leaders who still felt the guilt of sin.

Hebrew 10:19-22

19 Therefore, brothers and sisters, 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 and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Our heart is sprinkled with the blood of Jesus, and it cleanses our guilty conscience. Each time we feel the guilt of our past sins, we must put it under the blood of Jesus by confessing and renouncing the sin of our past. This is the only way to strengthen our conscience, and grow in our spiritual maturity.

1 Timothy 4:1,2

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ² Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

A person with a seared conscience has lost all feelings of guilt as they have damaged their moral compass. Our conscience must stay soft and tender to God so we live by a scripturally moral compass.