

Our Conscience Is Like A Clock

by Wayne Goff

Our conscience is an important part of our lives as Christians. We are to live with a good, clean and pure conscience. That can only be done when we (1) Obey the Gospel and have our conscience washed with the blood of Christ as we contact the pure waters of baptism (Heb. 10:22); and (2) continue to live in such a way as to be without offense to God or man (2 Cor. 1:12). When we do offend, we must repent and confess our sins to be cleansed once again (1 John 1:7-9).

- *"This being so, I myself always strive to have a **conscience** without offense toward God and men." (Acts 24:16)*
- *"For our boasting is this: the testimony of our **conscience** that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you." (2 Corinthians 1:12)*
- *"Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good **conscience**, and from sincere faith." (1 Timothy 1:5)*
- *"Having faith and a good **conscience**, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck." (1 Timothy 1:19)*
- *"Holding the mystery of the faith with a pure **conscience**." (1 Timothy 3:9)*
- *"To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and **conscience** are defiled." (Titus 1:15)*
- *"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your **conscience** from dead works to serve the living God?" (Hebrews 9:14)*
- *"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." (Hebrews 10:22)*
- *"There is also an antitype which now saves us — baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good **conscience** toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 3:21)*

It is obvious from the Scripture references above that we must purify our conscience, maintain its cleanliness, and strive to be without offense. Our conscience, then, is a valuable part of our lives as Christians. Some claim to have a "clear conscience" in sinful matters, but they have either deceived themselves or they have a hardened conscience. Be careful that you are not like them. Someone has compared the conscience to a clock in these particulars:

1. It must be wound up, Ephesians 5:14-16.

"Therefore He says: 'Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light. See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.'"

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2. It must be kept clean, John 15:3; Psalm 51:10.

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you" "Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me."

3. It is an alarm clock, Hebrews 3:12; 1

Corinthians 10:12. *"Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;" "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."*

HOW IS YOUR CONSCIENCE?