

How to Have a Good Conscience

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I. Introduction - 1 Timothy 1:18-19

II. A good conscience.

A. The results of a bad conscience.

1. It will shipwreck your faith. You sin your way to unbelief, you do not think your way to it. (John 7:17, Hebrews 3:12-13)

2. It will put fear in your heart. (Proverbs 28:1)

3. It robs one of freedom. If you are in conflict with someone you can never really leave well.

4. It shows on one's face. (Isaiah 3:9)

B. The results of a good conscience. It will strengthen your faith. It will take away your fear. (Proverbs 28:1b) It will give you freedom. It will improve your appearance. (Proverbs 15:13)

C. A man used by God has a clear conscience before God and man. (Acts 24:16)

D. A good conscience is the inner freedom of spirit one gets from knowing that no one can point a finger at him accusing him of wrongs he has not tried to make right.

E. God's grace is sufficient and we can come to God asking Him for a clear conscience. We cannot swallow up God's grace. (1 John 1:9)

F. The Christian road is a broad one—we are not to be afraid if God is not bringing something to our conscience. It is easy to be oversensitive. (Isaiah 41:10)

Application questions

1. What are the results of a bad conscience? What are the results of a good conscience?

2. Look up 1 John 1:9. On what grounds can we have a clear conscience?

3. Are there some things that you need to repent of before the Lord? Make a list and spend some time in prayer over them.
