

The Voice of Conscience

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I. The voice of God calling people out to Himself.

II. The voice of God's love.

III. The voice of reason.

IV. The voice of blood.

V. The voice of conscience.

A. Many are gun-shy about this term.

1. Since many believe that salvation comes from the conscience, they throw it out altogether.

2. The old devotion writers talk about it.

3. The Holy Spirit talks about it.

B. The devil has brought many truths into disrepute.

1. There was a time when people knew what worldliness was.

2. Many people have to have a dialogue about it now.

3. Some say that sin and worldliness was different from then.

4. We do not go on to obey God, we redefine it.

5. Conscience is only mentioned with a good natured smirk now.

C. The Scriptures take some things for granted and teach other things.

1. What Scripture takes for granted.

a. ...that God exists.

1) No proofs in the Bible exist for God's existence. The Bible begins here.

b. ...that the conscience exists.

D. The conscience.

1. This is on God's side, telling people to come back to the fold of God.

2. It always refers to the rightness or the wrongness of something.
3. It always has to do with one's personal relationship to God.
4. The conscience never deals with plurals.
5. Herbert Spencer claimed that conscience was the development of parental rules.
 - a. He made it to be a synthetic thing built into you.
6. The Scripture tells us about a secret inner light. (1 John 1:9)
7. The Holy Spirit is in the world and there is a moral awareness everywhere in the world. (Romans 2)
 - a. You do not have to preach the gospel in order to confirm his judgment.
 - b. If a man rejects the gospel, then he has rejected all hope.
 - c. The conscience is that secret light.
 - 1) The women in adultery. (John 8)
 - a) The conscience acted upon the Pharisees.
8. Many have illegitimate excuses for not hearing the message.

E. What people do to their consciences.

1. Turning away from a pure conscience. (1 Timothy 1:5)
 - a. The more we talk about something, the less reverence there is for it.
 - 1) Too much talk about religion, too little quiet reverence.
 - 2) There is something quietly reverent about our relationship to God and Jesus.
 - a) We need to have witness and evangelism.
 - b) But there is a carelessness too one needs to avoid.
 - b. We need to have reverent speech with one another.
2. Searing of a conscience with a hot iron. (1 Timothy 4:1-2)
 - a. When you handle hot things for too long, your hands become callous and you no longer can feel it fully.
 - b. It is possible to deal with our consciences this way. We can eventually have peace about these wrong things.

c. Sometimes a “clear conscience” is the same thing as saying a “seared conscience.”

3. The defiled conscience. (Titus 1:15-16)

a. If you are going to be extreme, be extreme on the side of righteousness.

b. We want to avoid the fatal silence of the inward voice.

c. Reasoning through sin opens the door for more sin.

4. The sprinkled conscience. (Hebrews 10:19-22)

a. The cleaned conscience.

1) We can hear again the voice of God.

2) David’s response after sinning was different than Saul’s.

3) Peter’s cry was different than Demas’s flight.

b. The voice of the healing heart is calling us back to relationship with God.

D. The voices of righteousness are crying out to us.

1. If you are a Christian, everything inside should seek being a better Christian.

2. All that God has to say, in whatever medium of communication, is that if you are not a Christian, be a Christian. If you are a Christian, be a better Christian.

Application questions.

1. How does the speaker assert the reality of the conscience? What is society’s response the conscience today?

2. What are the different aspects that the speaker highlights about the conscience? Which one strikes you the most? What aspect describes your own conscience at the present time?

3. The speaker says that the conscience is one of God’s mediums of communication that we can interfere with. Why is this significant? What will you do in order to gain or maintain an undefiled conscience, even today?
