

## OUR CONSCIENCE IS THE VOICE OF OUR SPIRIT

Our conscience is the voice of our spirit. And, as the apostle Paul wanted to make sure his conscience was clear of offenses toward God and mankind, we too, as believers, need to examine our hearts. If we wronged someone, we need to apologize and say, "*I was wrong; I'm sorry.*"

It's very important that we keep our hearts tender. Judging and examining ourselves and following through with making things right with people, as well as with the Lord, is one way to be sure that we're guarding our hearts from hardness, unbelief, and unforgiveness.

Proverbs 4:23

**Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.**

1 Corinthians 11:31

**For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.**

Mark 11:22-26

**<sup>22</sup>And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup>For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. <sup>24</sup>Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*. <sup>25</sup>And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. <sup>26</sup>But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.**

1 John 3:21

**Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God.**

All of us need our faith in working order. In order for us to receive from God, we have to guard our heart from evil. Some people don't realize how much damage they do to themselves, as well as to their own personal life of faith, when they allow unforgiveness and strife to stay in their heart. I know I didn't when I got saved. The Lord began to deal with me about the importance of walking in love. These things may seem small or trivial to others, or even to ourselves, but what seems insignificant to us can be a big deal to God.

Let's always be quick to obey what we have in our hearts, as well as walk in love and not violate our conscience, because when our faith isn't producing and the mountains aren't moving, it can be that we've allowed something to get in our heart that's blocking our faith.

One time in the ministry, I took on a project and began to raise money for it. Other ministers were doing it and I just assumed it would be OK that I would do it. But it wasn't; I missed God. I knew in my heart somewhere I'd missed God, and I had to find out where it was. By spending extra time in prayer, I found out where I had missed the Lord. You know when you get out of God's perfect will. It just feels better in your heart when you're right with God. It's then that you have a peace in your heart.

Though the trials may seem severe, if you know in your heart you're doing what God wants you to do, somehow, you'll get through. So I returned the offerings to the people who gave toward it, along with a letter explaining that I had missed God and I enclosed their check with it. It was sure good to have my conscience cleared, but at the same time, it was no fun on the flesh, pride, and ego to admit I was wrong. The whole thing was my fault; I violated my conscience by listening to others.

When you know you've missed it, find out where, and go to work on rectifying it and making it right. Because the sooner you do, you will be in God's perfect will.

**Let this be your prayer and a confession of faith:**

***God, I purpose to obey what I have in my heart, to walk in the spirit and not in the flesh. It's my purpose to please You and to live in Your perfect will. So if there's anything that I'm not doing that You want me to do, I thank You Lord, that You reveal it to me. God, if there's anyone or anything in my life that is keeping me from doing what You want me to do, if it's influencing more than You are, I thank You that You reveal it to me so I can deal with it. I want my conscience to always be clear and pure before You. I purpose to walk in the God-kind of love, practice forgiveness, and always put You first in every area of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.***

I look forward to sharing with you tomorrow.

Your partner in faith,

**Brother Rich**

**Remember, God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).**