



Berean Family Worship Center
One Church In Two Cities
www.bereanfamilyworshipcenter.org

Wednesday, August 04, 2021 - Group Study
Lesson Series: Understanding The Conscience
Lesson Series Text: (*Acts 24:16*)
Lesson 4: Holding Faith With A Good Conscience
Lesson 4 Text: *1 Tim. 1:18-19 (AMPC)*
All Scriptures are KJV; unless otherwise noted.
Prepared By Dr. Walter Henderson III

- I. Definitions:
 - A. War – Armed conflict.
 - B. Warfare – Acts taken to undermine, weaken, or destroy the enemy.
 - C. Holding – To continue or continuity.
 - D. Faith – Total dependence on God’s Word regardless of outward circumstances, appearances, timing, feelings, reasoning, etc.
- II. Paul gave Timothy a charge (command or order); based on the prophetic words spoken to Timothy. He gave Timothy two principles to wage his warfare with.
 - A. He must hold to faith in God’s Word.
 - B. He must hold to a good conscience.
- III. Faith and conscience are connected. *Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: (1 Tim 1:5)*
 - A. Charity (agape) is holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: (*1 Tim.1:19*)
 - B. Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. (*1 Tim 3:9*)
 - a. Holding the mystery (mysterion [moos-tay-ree-on]) – A secret held until initiation into an organization.
 - C. 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. (*Heb 10:22*)
- IV. Blood is a cleansing agent needed to cleanse our conscience. (*Heb. 9:1-14, 22*)
- V. Some quotations about the conscience.
 - A. There is no witness so dreadful, no accuser so terrible as the conscience that dwells in the heart of every man. (Polybius, c. 208-126 BC)
 - B. Wisdom entereth not into a malicious mind, and science without conscience is but the ruin of the soul. (Francois Rabelais, c. 1494-1553)
 - C. He that loses his conscience has nothing left that is worth keeping. (Caution, c. 1645, The Holy Court)
 - D. Trust that man in nothing who has not a conscience in everything. (Laurence Sterne, 1713-1768)
 - E. Conscience is a sacred sanctuary where God alone may enter as judge. (Felicite R. Lamennais)

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- F. Conscience is a soft whisper of the God in man. (Edward Young)
- G. Do not treat your conscience with contempt, for it always advises you to do what is best. It sets before you the will of God and the angels; it frees you from the secret defilements of the heart; and when you depart this life it grants you the gift of intimacy with God. (St. Maximos the Confessor)
- H. After God, let us have our conscience as our mentor and rule in all things, so that we may know which way the wind is blowing and set our sails accordingly. (St. John of the Ladder)
- I. He who lives in evil is punished in hell prematurely, being pierced by the conscience. (St. John Chrysostom)
- J. The conscience should not be evaded, since it tells us inwardly how to live in conformity to Gods will, and by severely censuring the soul when the mind has been infected by sins, and by admonishing the erring heart to repent, it provides welcome counsel as to how our defective state can be cured. (St. Philopheos of Sinai)
- K. A peace above all earthly dignities; a still and quiet conscience. (Shakespeare)
- L. The disease of an evil conscience is beyond the practice of all the physicians in the world. (Author Unknown)

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