



Pastor's Comments

In large print at:
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Guilty Conscience

I read of a man who had robbed a bank and got away with a large sum of money. Even though the robbery had occurred many years before, he turned himself in saying **he could no longer deal with the guilt**. He said he lived a life of **constant dread** that the law would catch up with him. His **guilty conscience** wouldn't let him enjoy the money he had stolen.

Many suffer from a **guilty conscience**. Joseph's brothers had carried the burden of a **guilty conscience** for many years as reflected in their conversation among themselves, "*We are verily **guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us***" (Gen. 42:21).

There are those who attempt to **silence their guilty conscience with drugs and alcohol**. Others attempt to **desensitize their conscience through depravity**. The Bible foretells "*...that in the latter times some...*" will have "*...their **conscience seared with a hot iron***" (1 Tim. 4:1-2). "*Who being **past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness***" (Eph. 4:19).

God created our conscience, and He has designed a way to **reset a guilty conscience** – to bring it back to a **state of innocence**. The only way to a **pure conscience** is through confession and repentance of sin to God believing that forgiveness is provided in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. "*How much more shall the blood of Christ...**purge your conscience...***" (Heb. 9:14). "*Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an **evil conscience...***" (Heb. 10:22).

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