

## A CLEAR CONSCIENCE

7/7/13

*Lack of worthiness or feelings of inadequacy, need not be a reason for a troubled conscience... rather they are the recognition of God's unfailing superiority. Feelings of insignificance, in the presence of such a great and powerful God is not a sign of failure, rather it is a normal response to true spiritual awareness. The unlimited potential of being God's servant, is far larger than our comprehension. No wonder we can feel out of our depth living up to the calling we have entered into. God is very aware of such inadequacies and our tendency to sin (fall short of the mark). Your sins and shortcomings aren't your real problem, it's leaving them undone that causes the most grief. A clear conscience comes from being right with God and right with your fellow man. Being right with God means that we are doing it his way... despite our feelings or emotions!*

**God knew in advance the fears and failings of Israel; so he presented the questions before they were asked.**

**EZE 33:10** Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live? It is unworkable for God's people to be continually living in fear or uncertainty... so God provided a covenant that met all human concerns. Remember that The Old Testament included the mercies of David (detailed study available).

**The temple System that God designed addressed sins, enabling individuals to live with a clear conscience.**

**HEB 9:13** For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: **14** How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, **purge** (future tense... sins yet to be committed) your **conscience from dead works to serve** (present tense) the living God? Without the high priest and the correct sacrifice (or mercy), sin remained unpurged... Likewise, those who do not have the anointing of the Spirit; don't have access to forgiveness, because they have no temple to access. **1COR 3:16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? The temple system is where the priest resides (inside you)... if you don't have the anointing of the Spirit, there is no mechanism to deal with your sins... you are effectively outside the New Covenant and outside of the mercy system... yet to enter in. When the Spirit enters us, we are given a sign... we speak in tongues. This is the God given language of priests. Acts 2&10, Mark 16.

**If our conscience still troubles us... despite these great truths, there remains a scriptural solution.**

**HEB 10:19** Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, **20** By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; **21** And having an high priest over the house of God; **22** Let us draw near with a **true heart** in full **assurance** of faith, having our **hearts sprinkled** from an **evil conscience** (symbolic of blood cleansing in the O/T), and our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) **24** And let us **consider** one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **25** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; **but exhorting one another:** and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. *V25 is the solution that David also offered: PSA 51:12* Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. **13** **Then will I teach transgressors thy ways;** and sinners shall be converted unto thee. Also note this other great truth that David revealed... **PSA 10:17** LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt **prepare their heart**, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear: *God will prepare our heart if we consent to do his will... he will deal with the conscience and guard our soul.*

**Furthermore, being an active and committed member of the fellowship provides the confidence we seek.**

**1JOH 3:18** My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. **19** And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. **20** For if our heart condemn us, **God is greater than our heart** (because he), and knoweth all things. **21** Beloved, if our **heart condemn us not**, then have we confidence toward God. The conscience weighs up between good and evil... it is our moral compass for life decisions and actions. We don't always foresee the results of every decision, thus errors are not unusual. Righteousness comes from a combination of our own commitments to serve God through the leading of the indwelling spirit and having our shortcomings compensated for by Christ. Without the ongoing forgiveness of our sins (compensation), overcoming and righteousness would be impossible. **1JOH 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

*Therefore, due to the fact that no one will ever be sin free from their own efforts, we need to abide within the correct scriptural cleansing system as seen above... this is the only way your conscience can be truly clear.*