

# The Conscience

# Definition, Categories, and Types of the Conscience

# The Conscience

## ◆ Defined:

◆ **Vine** – lit. a co-knowledge, knowledge with oneself

◆ **Thayer** - The process of thought which distinguishes what is considered morally good or bad, commending the good, condemning the bad, and so prompting to do the former, and avoid the latter.

## ◆ Two major categories:

◆ The *early* conscience – “My conscience is telling me not to do that.”

◆ The *late* conscience – “My conscience hurt me after I did that.”

# The Five Types of Conscience

- ◆ The **weak** (feeble, unstable) conscience – 1 Cor. 8:7, 11-12
- ◆ The **seared** (insensitive) conscience – 1 Tim. 4:1-2
- ◆ The **defiled** (soiled, polluted, stained, contaminated) conscience – Titus 1:15-16
- ◆ The **evil** (troubled, miserable, worthless, malicious, wicked, guilty) conscience – Heb. 10:21-22; Rom. 3:23
- ◆ The **good/pure** conscience – Acts 23:1

# God's Intended Purposes of the Conscience

# The Conscience...

- ◆ **Convicts or commends** our thoughts and actions – Jn. 8:7-9; Rom. 2:14-15
- ◆ **Bears witness** to the truthfulness or uprightness of our words and actions – Rom. 9:1-2; 2 Cor. 1:12
- ◆ **Prompts us to obey** and helps us choose to do what is right – Rom. 13:1-4, 5; 1 Pet. 2:18-19
- ◆ **Judges the deeds of others** – 2 Cor. 4:1-2

# Conclusion

- ◆ I hope you seek for a good/pure conscience before God.
- ◆ This can only happen through the cleansing of Christ's blood – Heb. 9:14
- ◆ The cleansing blood of Christ is applied when one acts in faith and obedience to Christ in baptism – 1 Peter 3:21
- ◆ Will you come to Christ right now?