Conscience is the Voice of the Spirit

E. W. Kenyon

The one who does not crave righteousness has a smothered conscience.

Conscience is often drowned in a sea of sin.

Man was created to fellowship with God. The spirit can find no rest away from Him. The senses can give no peace to the human spirit. They cannot satisfy the heart cry. God alone can answer that.

The human spirit craves fellowship with Heaven, but there is no fellowship without righteousness, and there is no righteousness without eternal life.

Sin consciousness is the slave-driver of man. When man knows that God has made him righteous, he becomes Satan's master.

There are no new creation spirits without eternal life, the nature of God.

Man is ruled by sin consciousness born of spiritual death. Satan often keeps a new creation in bondage to sin consciousness through ignorance. Condemnation is of the spirit. Sense knowledge does not convict of spiritual things.

Here are some vital facts that believers should know. Condemnation of sin is not of the senses until after one has sinned. Then sense knowledge sides in with the spirit and fills one with misery and remorse.

Our spirit is the custodian of fellowship. Our spirit should always be in harmony with our reason.

By walking in Love we keep in harmony with Heaven.

Happiness comes from the senses. Joy comes from fellowship with the Word. Joy is the companion of love. Joy can be unspeakable and full of glory when the spirit and reason are in harmony with the Word.

Selfishness wrecks Love and destroys fellowship. Happiness can never take the place of joy. When Joy is destroyed, the heart is desolate.

Religion gives happiness, but never Joy. Christ can give joy in the midst of sorrow, when happiness has fled.

When the senses rule, the body is on the throne. The spirit is imprisoned. Faith is weakened.

We walk in darkness when the Word is neglected. Prayer is but a form. No zeal for souls. The senses will put Self on the throne. Conscience is no longer heeded. The Word no longer comforts. The guidance of the Holy Spirit is no longer sought. We are turning to man for help. Love no longer lights the way. Self chooses the light of the senses. Self has destroyed joy. Now it is seeking happiness.

Wisdom of the senses is usually dangerous. It is usually selfish and seeks only its own.

Selfishness feeds on the helplessness of others. Selfishness knows no actual ties as brothers. It always seeks its own, and lives but to satisfy its desires.
Among the most precious of the facts about the Divine Life is that we have God in us.
It does not seem possible.
Human reason cannot grasp it.
The human mind is staggered by it, but it is true that “Greater is He that is in you than He that is in the world.”
Christianity is not a religion, nor science, philosophy or metaphysics.
It is God living His own life in us.
It is our union with Diety.
We become the house in which God lives.
Our mind becomes His instrument.
The sooner we become God inside minded, the quicker will we learn to use the force that is within us and when any emergency arises we will whisper softly to ourselves, “The Greater One is in me.”

When some problem comes that baffles us again we will whisper, “Lord, here is your opportunity, I cannot see through this, Thou canst, and so I trust Thee to give Thy Wisdom at this crisis.”
What a Life!
Having that mighty One living in you.
Always there, always ready.
His healing strength, His mental strength, His love strength, all inside us.
My great need is to so educate myself through the Word that I may be ever conscious of His indwelling presence.
No matter how great the difficulties or what the trouble may be, I know that “Greater is He that is in me than He that is in the world.”
May our hearts grow continually to consider Him as living in us.

God Inside Minded
E. W. Kenyon

Did You Pray for Me?

Did you speak my name this morning?
As you went to God in prayer?
Did you ask for strength and comfort,
For my burdens and my care?
I am sure that someone prayed;
For my day has been so bright.
My faith is strong and undefeated;
My work burden is so light.
You must have mentioned to the Father
That I needed strength and power
And a helping hand to guide me
Safely through the testing hour.

Thank you, friend, that you remembered,
When you stole away and prayed.
To present unto our Father
Kind petitions for my aid.

— Author Unknown

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Would you like to bless a prisoner with one of Dr. Kenyon’s faith building books? The Prison Ministry Book Fund is very low from the large response we have had and it could use your help. Just mark your donations to the PMBF.
The Two Kinds of Consciences
E. W. Kenyon

We know that there are two kinds of consciences because Paul clearly describes them.

In Acts 23:1 it says, “And Paul, looking steadfastly on the council, said, Brethren, I have lived before God in all good conscience until this day.”

I say, “But Paul, how is that?” He says, “That was my conscience before I was Born Again. You see I had the conscience of a Jew, and that conscience would have permitted me to crucify the Son of God. But now, I have a conscience, I have the conscience of God.”

I can hear someone say, “Paul, I do not understand you. What do you mean by conscience?”

Paul answers, “It is the voice of my recreated spirit. My old conscience was the voice of my unrecreated spirit that was dominated by Satan. Our good brother Peter calls it ‘the hidden man of the heart.’ I call it the inward man. We mean the same thing. It is the real you and me. When that person within you speaks, you call it your conscience. It is the real you, your recreated spirit.”

“So you tell us, Paul, how that spirit, that unrecreated man, is made into a new man?”

“You see,” says Paul, “God recreates or gives birth to a new spirit. You remember Ez. 36:26-27, ‘A new spirit will I put within you and a new heart will I give you. I will take away the stony heart (the spiritually dead heart) and I will give you a heart of flesh, the heart of a new creation.’” (literal translation)

“You mean, Paul, that the words heart and spirit are the same?”

“Oh yes! When He says, ‘Love thy God with all thy heart,’ He means all thy spirit.”

“You kind of confuse me yet, Paul. What is the difference between your spirit and your soul?”

“You are confusing yourself, Paul. What is the difference between your spirit and your soul?”

“Your soul is your reasoning faculties that receives all its knowledge and impulses from your five senses. Your spirit is utterly independent of the senses. Your spirit is the real you. Your senses are not the real you, nor your brain or reasoning faculties. They are the exterior. They are the seeing and feeling part of man. This hidden man of the heart is the part with whom God deals. It is the part with whom Satan dealt with in the Garden. He imparted his own nature to our father Adam; then Adam died in spirit. We have been made alive in spirit by receiving the nature and life of God.”

“Paul, did the Mosaic Covenant deal with man’s spirit?”

“No, it dealt with the exterior man, the man of the senses. Man was judged by his conduct. If with his lips he cursed God, the penalty was death. If with his hands he murdered, he was dealt with. The law deals only with the things heard, seen, or felt. God goes beyond that, He gives a new commandment to a New Creation man. ‘A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another even as I have loved you.’ John 13:34.

“You know the Word, love, there was evidently a word that Jesus coined. It was Agape, a new kind of love. The old kind of love is Phileo, born of selfishness. But this new kind of love is born of God. It is God’s nature coming into man.”

“A new spirit will I put within you and a new heart will I give you.”

~Ez. 36:26-27

“The most amazing thing to me, brother Paul, is that you imply that when a man is Born Again he has a new self.”

“Yes, that is true. Wherefore, if any man is in Christ there is a new creation. The new spirit and new heart spoken about in Ezekiel becomes a reality in the New Creation man.”

“But Paul, tell us more about man’s conscience. What is your conscience, in reality?”

Paul says, “May I ask you a question? Is a man’s voice a part of himself? If you heard me speaking behind a curtain you would say, that is Paul talking. Then my voice and myself are one. My conscience is the speaking part of myself. Or, if you want to be more specific, it is the voice of the spirit within myself. The voice of the recreated spirit or the natural spirit. That voice and that conscience and spirit are one.”

Hebrews 9:13-14 “For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling them that have been defiled, sanctify unto the cleanness of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish unto God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.”

It could also read like this, “To cleanse your spirit, the hidden man of the heart, from dead works.” The works of law and the sacrifices of the First Covenant were dead works.

I want to call your attention to another phase of this.

In 1 Cor. 8:7-12 we have a remarkable picture of babes in Christ who have recently come out of heathenism. They have been accustomed to going into the heathen temple to get their mid-day meal. They would eat the meat offered in sacrifice.

These new converts are just beginning to see that an idol is simply Satan in disguise, and they haven’t any right to eat meat that has been offered to Satan as a sacrifice.

Not all these new converts realize this. Some of them have what Paul calls a weak conscience.

That is striking when you think about it. Some folks have strong consciences. Their spirit is the strongest part of them.

When they are New Creations their recreated spirits should be the strongest part of them. When sense knowledge wants to rule them, their spirit rises up and takes over the senses. They make wonderful Christians.

Others have a weak conscience that is ruled and governed by a sense knowledge brain.

In 1 Cor. 10:25 Paul tells us, “Whatsoever is sold in the shambles, eat, asking no questions for conscience’ sake.”

Whose conscience? Not his, but the conscience of the man who offered him the meat.

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The Two Kinds of Consciences

In the twenty-seventh verse we read, "If one of them that believe not biddeth you a feast, and ye are disposed to go; whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no question for conscience’ sake.”

Paul tells us that the meat is not unclean, he has prayed over it.

But He says, if the brother by your side has a weak conscience and says, “Brother Paul that meat was offered up to the devil, you must not eat it,” Paul says, “Why is my liberty judged by the conscience of another? If I by grace partake, why is evil spoken of me?”

But here love enters in. “Whether therefore ye eat, drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Give no occasion of stumbling, either to Jews, or to Greeks, or to the Church of God.”

Love comes in to take control of the Believer’s conduct.

Now Paul says, “Be ye imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ.”

When we listen to our recreated spirit, we will walk in love, and we will not stumble, nor will we cause our brother to stumble. Our conscience, the voice of our recreated spirit will lead us. This new conscience will speak to us with the wisdom of God and will cause us to walk uprightly, and to be well-pleasing to our Heavenly Father.

Your Conscience

There are two necessary ingredients to maintaining a clear conscience before the Father. First, we must accept the gift of Righteousness. In the New Covenant we are Righteous by faith in the Resurrection of Christ. “If you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, you shall be saved. For with the heart one believes to Righteousness and with the mouth one confesses to Salvation” (Rom. 10:9,10). We believe unto or into Righteousness. It is a free gift of God’s grace, not something we work to attain.

Notice that we confess that Jesus is Lord. It is also necessary that Jesus’ Lordship be a Reality in our lives. We belong to Him and have been bought at the price of His poured-out blood. We are not our own. We know in our hearts whether or not His Lordship is a settled issue in our lives. If we are Father-pleasers seeking to honor Him first in our lives our conscience will be clear and our hearts will not condemn us. We are able to forget ourselves and fellowship with Him in an unhindered way. His overflowing grace floods our hearts and we rejoice in His continuous mercy toward us.

Then, if we do miss the mark, we confess our sin and receive His forgiveness. We believe the promise of the New Covenant that He will remember our sins and lawless deeds no more and we press on with Him without condemnation.

Faith requires a clear conscience. Strong faith is the fruit of enjoying our Righteousness in His presence. Our hearts are filled with assurance as we bathe in His acceptance. Confidence in His Word becomes almost unconscious. Trusting Him becomes effortless.

You have the blood of Jesus to maintain a clear conscience before your Father. Honor the price Jesus paid and take advantage of His grace. You are a Father-pleaser.

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