

# Can You Trust your Conscience? Part 1

*Charles Stanley*

## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I Timothy 1:18.
- B. Good conscience and faith are related.

## II. A conscience is a universal gift from God.

- A. Our conscience is something that helps us distinguish between right and wrong.
- B. Conscience operates based on how it is programmed.
- C. Eve ignored her alarm system. (Genesis 3)
- D. Whenever we sin, we violate God's alarm system. (Romans 1)
- E. Everyone believes in right and wrong to some extent—the law is written in those hearts that do not receive revelation because God has implanted the conscience.

## III. The Holy Spirit works with the conscience to guide us.

- A. The Spirit is a person—the conscience is not.
- B. Those non-Christians without the Spirit have a conscience but they do not have the Spirit to urge them to do right after the alarm goes off.
- C. The conscience is programmed—when it is ignored, the system is fouled up.

## IV. For one to ignore the conscience is to invite disaster.

- A. When the alarm of the conscience is no longer heard, the conscience has been ruined. (I Timothy 4)
- B. Those whose conscience has been ruined have made a shipwreck of their life.

### **Application questions:**

1. What is the conscience?

---

---

2. Why is it not good enough to have a conscience?

---

---

3. How would you explain the role of the Holy Spirit with regard to the conscience?

---

---