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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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I Timothy Book Study (#22)

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Text: Acts 24:1-33
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CONSCIENCE WITHOUT OFFENSE (02)

(Acts 24:1-9)
(Acts 24:10-21)
(Acts 24:22-23)

The Jews accusations
Paul's defense
Felix's decision

Hired gun
Holy Spirit (Matt.10:16-20)
Hot potato politically

(Acts 24:16) "In view of this, I also do my best to maintain (askeo/ p.a.ind.1ps) [to train by disciplined exercise] (inhale and exhale of Categorical Bible Doctrine) always a **blameless** (aproskoptos/ alpha privative) [without offense] **conscience both before God and before men.**"

Acts 4:12, 17-21 offer us insight into how to keep your conscience free from offense before God and men (Acts 7:51-8:3; 9:2; Gal.1:13; 1 Tim.1:15).

**This lesson will study three important basic aspects of how the
Spiritually Advancing believer can keep his conscience without offense.**

1. The spiritually advancing believer must understand the importance of inhale and exhale of the word of God no matter the circumstances for maintaining his conscience free from offense.

(2 Tim.3:16-17) "All Scripture is God breathed (inhale and exhale) and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good (agathos) work."

Since conscience is a natural built-in monitor and judge of human attitudes and actions, it is imperative that the spiritually advancing believer cycle categorical Bible doctrine by faith in order **to establish divine norms and standards in his / her conscience** to live the Christian Way of Life (CWL).

(Rom.2:15) "In that they show the work of the law in their hearts, their **conscience** bearing witness and their **thoughts** alternately **accusing or else defending** them."

2. The spiritually mature believer realizes the importance of the revealed Directive Will of God in every experience of the Christian Way of Life (CWL)

Formula: (The Word of God) (The Will of God) to (The Work of God).

(Phil.2:13) "For **it is God** who is at work in you, **both** to will and to work for His good pleasure."
(Rom.12:2)

(Heb.13:18) "Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a **good** (kalos) [Intrinsic/ inward] **conscience, desiring** to conduct ourselves honorably in all things." (1 Pet.2:9-10) [Royal Honor Code]

3. Like Paul, Peter and John were dragged into court for practicing Christianity in public in (Acts 4:1-4, 8-12 and 17-21) [Political correctness gone amuck!]

(Acts 4:19-20) “Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard.” (1 Cor.4:4)

(1 Pet.2:19-20) “**For this finds favor** (grace/ charis), if (1cc/ true) **for the sake of conscience towards God** a person bears up under sorrow when suffering unjustly. For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if (1cc/ true) when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, **this finds favor with God.**”

Exchange:

- Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) thinking [conformity to the world]

FOR

- New Man Divine Viewpoint (NMDV) thinking [conformity to the Will of God]

(Eph.4:22-24) “**That, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.**” (Eph.30-32; Rom.12:2)

Do you see the 2 poles of the conscience? (1 Cor.8:7-13; 10:27-33)

CONSCIENCE

- **The Indwelling Holy Spirit** is the major divine teacher and guide to living out the Will of God. (John 14:16-17, 26; 16:12-15).
- **In order to get back to a good conscience**, the believer’s conscience must be **cleansed by blood of Christ** through confession of sin and restore to transformation thinking regarding the directive will of God. (Heb.10:1-2, 18-25; 2 Pet.1:9-10; 1 John 1:7-9; Eph.5:26; Rom.12:2)

The Directive Will of God: “Yet not as I will, but as You will.” (Matt.26:39, 41; John 6:39-40; Col.1:9-10)

(Phil.1:10) “So that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless (aproskopos/ without offense) until the day of Christ.” (Phil.1:7-10)