

Mans 'conscience' and knowing good and evil

Wm Tipton

Assertions/Conclusions of this Article

To show that man does have a conscience that can be in line with Gods law and can understand that, even when unregenerate, he has committed wrong/evil and/or good.

Supporting Evidence

Romans here shows both 'by nature' and 'their conscience'.

MY assertion is that this passage speaks about the MANS nature and the MANS conscience.

For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

(Romans 2:14-15 KJV)

The word 'conscience' there is this;

G4893

συνείδησις

suneidēsis

soon-i'-day-sis

From a prolonged form of G4894; co-perception, that is, moral consciousness: - conscience.

Lets compare the word 'conscience' to other passages where it is used and see if it ever applies TO the unsaved.

This passage is where the UNsaved pharisees have just tried to trick Jesus.

They said this, tempting Him so that they might have reason to accuse Him. But bending down, Jesus wrote on the ground with His finger, not appearing to hear. But as they continued to ask Him, He lifted Himself up and said to them, He who is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone at her. And again bending down, He wrote on the ground. And hearing, and being convicted by conscience, they went out one by one, beginning at the oldest, until the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

(John 8:6-9 MKJV)

Same word as in Romans above...

These UNSAVED men, as far from God as they were...as WE know the Pharisees were... KNEW they were not guiltless of sin and wrongdoing, thus their own conscience caused them to drop their stones and leave.

Point is that EVEN the godless Pharisees could be convicted by their own conscience to KNOW that they had done wrong.

Just as with the Romans passage...men can KNOW, saved or not, that they have done evil.
The unsaved are simply yet to be reconciled to God and filled with the Spirit so they can be forgiven for sins.
They are ruled by their spiritless minds, but like the Pharisees above, ARE capable of knowing when they have done good or evil.