

## The Conscience

**The word “conscience” means** *to know with*. This is the inner faculty that accuses you when you have done wrong and commends you when you have done right (Rev 22:12; 20:12-13; Rom 2:15; Gen 3:22).

A good conscience is one that functions properly. Titus 1:15; Jms 4:17 – When you sin against your conscience, you defile it and it cannot function properly. If you persist in sinning you can sear your conscience so that it becomes hardened (Eph 4:19; 1 Tim 4:2). This leads to an evil conscience.

For us, Heb 10:22 is an absolute necessity, or we will sin as Heb 10:26-27 says. We are able to exercise our conscience so that it becomes strong (Mt 6:22-23; Acts 24:16; Heb 5:11-14). Conscience is what we *know with*.

It is the means by which we know the difference between good and evil (Gen 3:22). Therefore no man has an excuse when he stands before Him in the judgment, which determines his eternal destiny (Rev 22:11-12).

If it were not true that Gen 3:22 was inherently the knowledge all mankind has as a gift of God, then Noah in Gen 9:1 would not have been able to understand what God Himself was telling him. Gen 9:1-7 is man's responsibility before God. Man is accountable for every secret thing, whether what is done is good or evil (Ecc 12:14; Rev 20:12; 22:12).