



WORD AND SONG NEWS

The newsletter of Sword and Song Ministries

June 2005 • Celebrating 27 years of ministry

An extension of the Prophetic Teaching Ministry of Tamara Winslow

P.O.B. 26558, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80936 USA Web site: tamarawinslow.com

God longs for us to learn His fear! It's one of His highest and most desired priorities. With it's learning comes a release of innumerable benefits for those who take it seriously. But how does Biblical principle and example indicate that He teaches us the fear of the Lord? What aspect of the human being is homed in on? This must be clarified if we are to continue our journey in the matter.

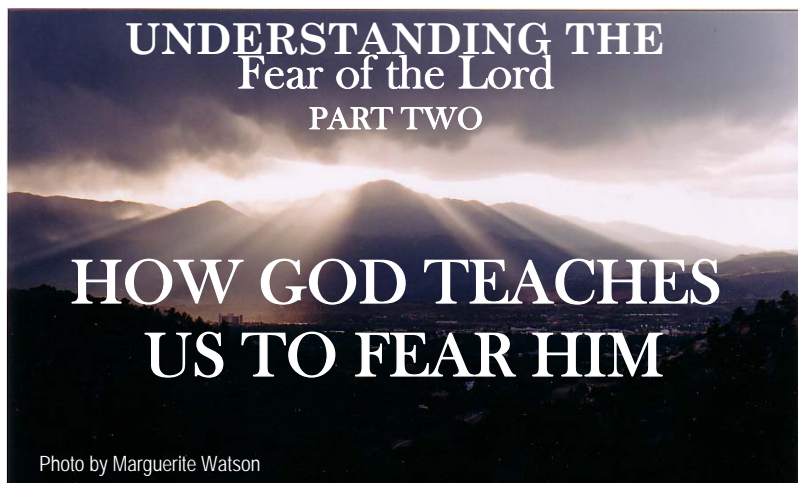
Let's rehearse the definition again!

The fear of the Lord is- a conscious, willful, honor, awe or respect of God's awesomeness and character that makes one hesitate cautiously and restrains behavior to avoid harmful consequences and broken spiritual relationship, often accompanied by feelings of inward trembling.

First of all, God has a target. The message of the Fear of the Lord is much like a fiery arrow purposely, directly penetrating hardened, indifferent hearts. He aims these truths at the most personal intimate regions

of the inner being known as the heart or what might be better understood in this teaching and for the sake of application as the conscience.

tion of function of conscience affecting a wide variety of spiritual and natural expressions. God targets the conscience with the message of the fear of the Lord because when this belief mo-



The human conscience is seldom acknowledged in spiritual and psychological circles and even though not frequently mentioned in Scripture it is in truth the very center of godly and ungodly conviction, appetite, determination, spiritual perception, understanding, memory and choice. In fact, to our lamentable fault, this lack of understanding of conscience has resulted in a stripping away of what could be helpful definition for the average individual or Christian leader. Consequently we experience a limita-

tates the believer it's influence generates an inner strength that then enables an individual to demonstrate respect and honor for who God is, who God has made the person to be and how he or she should and can behave. Positive, negative and apathetic convictions are formulated in the conscience depending on how seriously the fear of the Lord referees one's field of life. One's belief system takes residence there. In fact, the greater the revelation of the Fear of the Lord, the stronger the conviction, the greater the awareness to God's presence, every event, word and feeling in life and the

more consequentially one lives. In some narrow respects the conscience could be considered the ears and voice of the human spirit although that view barely encompasses its human role.



Historically various theological circles have discussed and analyzed the human conscience. They've aptly compared it to a courtroom where constantly sits the judge, jury, executioner, defense and witness. Court is always in session if one looks at the conscience this way. According to the Hebrew and Greek words translated as the word conscience, recognized Bible commentators conceptually define the conscience as "knowledge along with another." It is disputed by some as whom or what that "another" is but the great majority of scholars who dare to comment all conclude that the "other" is God. Therefore, conscience is that part of any human being that most identifies and perceives the existence and presence of God, His knowledge, spiritual realities and the development of the fear of the Lord. It then bears or does not bear witness or jointly testifies in agreement or does not testify with who and what God has established to be godly by His fear. Furthermore the resulting thoughts either excuse or accuse the decision that will be made, even about the slightest thing.

TYPES OF CONSCIENCE

Practically speaking there are THREE types of conscience

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identified by similarities and comparisons revealed in Scripture and human living. These types are derived according to whether the person has been physically born or not.

Those types are

- #1. **INBORN INTUITIONAL CONSCIENCE**
- #2. **ACQUIRED INBORN CONSCIENCE**
- #3. **ACQUIRED AND DEVELOPED CONSCIENCE.**

Ideally, God has designed for every human being to possess the inborn intuitional conscience that enables each person to develop the proper boundaries of right and wrong etc. In many cases, especially if there is a calling to ministry involved, it seems that unusual spiritual conflict may occur prior to some infants being born. There is no way to really explain it, but some individuals, conceived in the most distressing circumstances and surrounding environments are born, grow up and become healthy individuals in spite of all the demonic intent to warp them and twist their conscience. For some reason, God protects that particular individual's conscience. The Bible very clearly states that He's not a respecter of persons and yet, there seems to be a special protective grace resting on called individuals born into potentially destructive situations. This is highly unusual but there's no other explanation for why some children, exposed to horrific conditions are sensible even when their parents demonstrate depravity. Jeremiah, Paul the Apostle and Moses all called into ministry from the womb seemed to have this unusual protection in the midst of adverse and potentially difficult life.

The INBORN INTUITIONAL CONSCIENCE is that God-given factor that should rightfully belong to every human being beginning in the fetus. It's essentially the unadulterated and pure human spirit awaiting to be developed. On rare, please note rare occasions, conscious choices are made in the

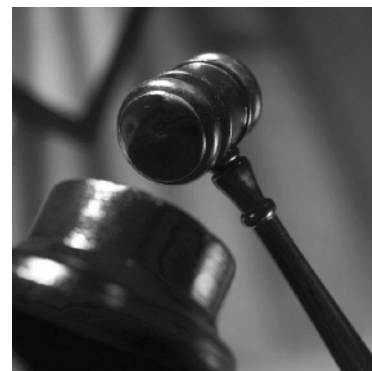
womb that would indicate the conscience and human spirit is functioning, aware and decisive.

In speaking of this I'm not referring to what some scholars try to link with a doctrine known as original sin. That is another subject entirely, and one that would take a great deal of examination to explain. Furthermore, at this point that doctrinal view doesn't relate to our subject of the fear of the Lord. However, I believe we need to look at a few Biblical instances that reveal the fetus's spirit is alive and aware of God's presence and even possibly can make decisions while in the womb.

One instance describes the unborn John the Baptist reacting in the womb upon hearing Mary's voice as she went to visit Elizabeth his aged mother. Elizabeth resounded that the fetus leaped in her womb, fully aware of the presence of God abiding in Mary the soon to be mother of the Messiah. The unborn child was aware of God's presence. This is evidence that conscience functions before actual birth, as it is knowledge along with another, or a perception of God!

Isa 48:8 Yea, thou heardest not; yea, thou knewest not; yea, from that time that thine ear was not opened: for I knew that thou wouldst deal very treacherously, and wast called a transgressor from the womb.KJV

Another example though a bit difficult to explain is found in Isaiah 48:8. In this passage God states through the prophet that Jacob was considered to



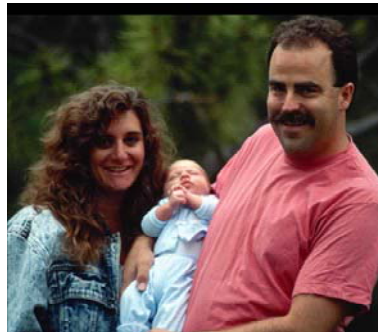
be a rebel from the womb. Nonetheless, some sort of rebellious choice was made prior to or shortly after birth. It's difficult to say.

Reading these accounts should alert and cause us to seriously consider

how people, environments, external influences and even physical stimuli may affect the conscience or spirit of the unborn child. This all begins very early!

An ACQUIRED INBORN CONSCIENCE is a perverted form of conscience that results from physical and genetic disorders caused by chemical misuse while the fetus is in the womb or by possibly, although considered controversial, generational curses due to certain types of sin in the parental lines. Certain disorders such as "Crack" Babies and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome can result in a condition in which the individual afflicted by it has virtually no ability to feel conviction or distinguish right or wrong. One article in the February 1991 issue of *Reader's Digest*, entitled; *Kids Who Can't Say No*, states- "Crack children are scary", adds Thelma Farley, director of Beacon Day School in Oakland, Calif., and a child development expert. "So many drug-exposed children seem to lack moral reasoning- they just don't get it when they've done something wrong." Even secular social workers notice conscience is missing and if that is so there is also no fear of the Lord. Finally lets consider **the ACQUIRED AND DEVELOPED CONSCIENCE**. This type of conscience is a direct result of godly and ungodly internal and external influences or stimuli. Sometimes a pre-birth trauma can cause this type of conscience. However this kind is most likely acquired in the early years of life through godly or ungodly parental and extended family influences. Fathers, mothers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older brothers and sisters and cousins all exert varying degrees of impact in the development of this acquired condition. Various sorts of Biblical or non-Biblical religious

training also influence the early years of the childhood development. Legalistic extremes are especially damaging in these stages of growth. External stimuli such as television, videos, music, culture, education and books all contribute positively or negatively to the development of conscience. Television's influence is especially significant since statistically the average American child will have watched 100,000 acts of televised violence, including 8000 depictions of murder, by the time he or she is



13 years old. Conscience is obliterated by these visual horrors. Culture also plays a key role in conscience development. If the culture is anti-God, or even anti-conscience such as Tibetan Buddhism that encourages the denial of conscience at an early age, that culture can kill conscience in the name of social acceptance and create an entrance for the approval of sinful behavior. One cannot ignore this type of conscience, because essentially, we build it.

A healthy conscience is essential if the fear of the Lord is to be practiced. In order to fear God one must be able to be aware of and perceive Him practically, by faith and also tangibly. The consciousness and respect for His felt and unfelt presence is determined by how and whether the person is knowledgeably aware of Him and His deity. An unhealthy conscience is unaware of and cannot, dare I say, doesn't feel the slightest working, movement or manifestation of God. Therefore it blindly ignores His daily involvement in life and can't respect Him or consequentially adjust behavior because there is no concern for what might dam-

age the intimate relationship or apprehension of harmful loss. An increasing number of occult and so-called supernatural influences paraded in the various movies, music, television programs and literature have become progressively more tolerated and even accepted in Christian circles. They are touted as moral teaching tools and positive stimuli when in fact they contradict, counterfeit and replace the genuine spirituality that God desires and can only be exposed if there is a proper understanding of the fear of God. Christians can now readily and defensively quote both non-Christian and Christian authors and movies who propagate religiously camouflaged occult based themes that intentionally fraud actual spirituality accompanied by approving shouts and clapping, above what they can of God's actual word and character. Few can discern the demonic intent of the crippling deception aimed at destroying the conscious reality of the fear of God. Furthermore, a great number of things could be said concerning the frightening absence and the need for the awesome tangible manifestation of God's presence and glory in the individual Christian life and often spiritually vacuous Christian meetings. The corporate conscience has become numbed by entertaining music and superficial, psychologically feel-good messages so that fearing God has disappeared in favor of temporal and nearly counterfeit occasions of comfortable gatherings that neither confront the miserable condition of conscience that nears searing as warned by Paul in 1 Timothy 4:1-3. It is more than obvious; we don't constantly fear God, His presence or principles. If we did things would be far different and the testimony of the Church would bear witness to His reality and character. Where is the conviction we so need?

The son of the widow woman of Zarephath in the drama of 1 Kings 17:17-18 died. Grieved, she confronted Elijah in a way that indicates her conscience actively remembered her past sins and felt that the death of her son was due to her failures and Elijah's prophetic presence surfacing the issues. Whether her son's death was a result of her sins or not, is not the issue. In her case and in ours, the conscience

remembers the good, bad, the ugly and literally every word we speak, hear and learn, even if that remembrance is twisted by the fall and contrary to the truth of God's character. A similar instance is recorded in John 8 when the legalistic religious leaders desired to condemn a woman actually caught in the sin of adultery. Jesus response is unique. Instead of condemning the woman to death, as the religious accusers were hoping he would do, he stooped down and began to write upon the ground. Her accusers would have grown increasingly disturbed because of this action as they were all aware of the writing of Jeremiah 17:13 that states that those who depart from the Lord, forsaking Him, are like names written on the ground doomed to disappear. Consequently, Jesus challenged them and said that he that was without sin among them should cast the first stone. One by one, being convicted by their conscience, remembering their own spiritual adulteries they left till none was left to accuse. The conscience knows and remembers!

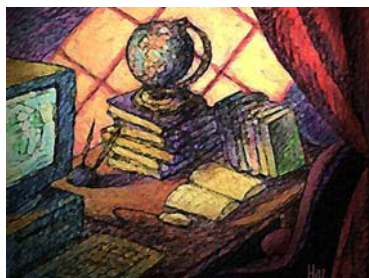
1 Kings 17:17 And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him. 18 And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son? KJV

John 8:6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. 7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. 8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. 9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

Jer 17:13 O Lord, the Hope of Israel, all who forsake You shall be put to shame. They who depart from You and me [Your prophet] shall [disappear like] writing

upon the ground, because they have forsaken the Lord, the Fountain of living waters. AMP

INSTILLING A FEAR OF GOD IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONSCIENCE AFFECT



HOW WE WILL & SHOULD EDUCATE

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. KJV

Proverbs 2:5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. KJV

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. KJV

Isaiah 11:2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; KJV

In addition to this, the conscience holds the keys to memory and learning. For some reason, it remembers all things experienced and learned, including the good, evil and insignificant. It's regrettable that this foundational aspect of humanity has been overlooked, as the godly access and training of it could result in incredible and unrealized educational expressions. I'm aware that this is a challenging concept, but I believe and have found to be true with the students of the Institutes for Biblical Truth programs and classes that learning can and does escalate exponentially if the functions of the conscience are targeted. Alas we've become trapped in a fundamentally humanistic educational worldview that ignores the human spirit while the potential in the conscience awaits admission and opportunity. This is the very reason that when

one develops conscience in a godly sense that the fear of the Lord results in the beginning of all aspects of knowledge, skill and wisdom. This is no small affect as the fear of the Lord in a healthy conscience empowers potential in understanding wisdom in administration, skill for all forms of conflict and shrewdness in virtually every manner of human need. But the mere fact is that conscience is undeveloped and often worse ignored. Perhaps this potential increase of knowledge through a developed understanding of the fear of the Lord is also one of the reasons that some of the greatest minds and intellectuals throughout history were in the majority, Jewish. It just can't be a coincidence. Some of the greatest minds and scientific inventors of human history were Jews. For example, Albert Einstein was a Jew, even though it is uncertain as to what his actual belief system was. Many Jews didn't and do not acknowledge the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but that does not void God's promise to the nations through Abraham (Gen.12:1-3; 18:17; 22:18). Will the scientific and educational communities of future generations be confronted by the impact of the fear of the Lord? I believe its unavoidable, but not without a renewed understanding of conscience.

Every human being owns a conscience, even though the condition of that conscience will vary widely from person to person, saved to unsaved, nation-to-nation and generation-to-generation. There are also corporate consciences just as there is a corporate manifestation of the fear of the Lord. The Bible identifies and names numerous godly and ungodly conditions of conscience. Therefore the conscience of an unsaved individual, nation and generation may very well possess a type of the fear of the Lord, although it won't generally practice the proper perspective since the fall of man still hinders a true understanding of the message. Romans 2:15 specifically states that the laws of God have been inscribed in the conscience of humankind. This is most probably the reason that sometimes the unsaved will behave more righteously than the saved because their conscience still retains those spiritual principles largely

ignored for their power and affect on the human spirit. The human being was first and intentionally fashioned in the likeness of God and even though that original semblance is horribly stained, spiritual dead and principally forgotten; the human spirit still remembers God. The human spirit, or in this case the conscience must be awakened and trained.

Rom 2:13-(For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.14 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:15 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.)16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.KJV

The conditions of the conscience identified in the Bible are as follows. The Godly conditions result according to the degree of the revelation of the Fear of the Lord. In most cases this type of conscience exists primarily in the believer, however it may also exist to some extent in unsaved individuals who choose to live a life of forgiveness. In order to understand how God teaches the fear of the Lord we need to examine the ungodly condition of the conscience in a general overview.

GODLY CONDITION- Good conscience-Acts 23:1,1Tim 1:5, Heb 13:18,1 Pet 3:16,21; Conscience Void of offense-Acts 24:16; Pure conscience-1 Tim 3:9; 2 Tim 1:3; Perfect conscience- Heb 9:9-10; Conscience cleansed by the Blood of Jesus-Heb 9:14

A conscience is considered ungodly or also unhealthy when it is described as either weak, defiled, polluted by dead religious works, wounded, evil and finally seared. Each of these words identifies conditions of conscience possessed by both saved and unsaved

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individuals. Let's take a look at each type.

CONSCIENCE AFFECTED BY DEAD WORKS

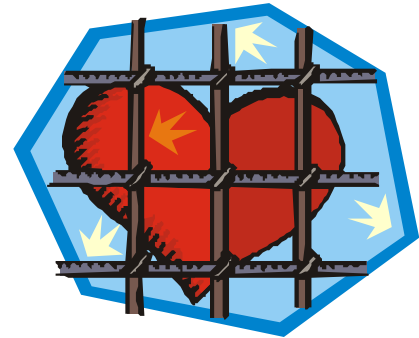
Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Heb 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: KJV

True spiritual service requires a right understanding of fearing God. Without that principle the acts are dead, no matter how religious or seemingly helpful and the conscience suffers. There is nothing any one of us can do to earn God's approval or acceptance. Grace is the only means whereby genuine approval comes. Every spiritually lead action must be lead by the Holy Spirit and coordinately umpired by the motivation of fearing God. Persons who lack that motivating factor operate on a performance basis and corrupt their conscience. Jesus shed His blood in order to purify the conscience in order that life could once again be governed by the right principles in the Fear of the Lord. This type of conscience ought not to be present in the Church and yet it is by far one of the primary reasons so many believers have difficulty hearing the Lord and advancing in spiritual growth. Only an understanding of the message on fearing God and revelation on the power of the Blood can correct this disability.

The WEAK, DISABLED CONSCIENCE

The weak or disabled conscience is one that has no power or strength. (1 Cor.8: 11) This weakness radically restrains and cripples the will. A person with this condition of conscience is unable to make godly choices and can't sustain decisions when holiness is required. They vacillate. In most cases such persons never heard the unadulterated Biblical truths or they learned legalism or even more commonly a mixture. Surrounded



by morals contrary to godliness, they don't develop in a healthy manner. Various influences such as parents who train or don't train the fear of the Lord properly, education, family, entertainment, friendships and Christian doctrine influenced by humanism all play a major role in the lack of development. Consequently, persons possessing a weak conscience tend to absorb a mixture of truths, philosophies and opinions eventually resulting in compromise. As we have already seen, in some situations, harmful physical stimuli or chemicals, such as the pre-birth reception of alcohol or dangerous drugs damage the person's physical ability to practically connect with their conscience and the conscience is disabled. Fetuses exposed to these drugs become defenseless victims and are left with a weak conscience. Furthermore, they just "don't get it" when they've done something wrong. If correction comes they simply don't understand, often taking the correction as condemnation or legalism.

A weak conscience is defined as literally, figuratively or morally feeble, impotent or sick. Individuals owning such demonstrate passivity in mind and will. Paul, the apostle, addressed the jumbled faith of the Corinthian believers when he attempted to alert them to use wisdom when interacting with individuals who indicated a weak conscience. Problems had evidently occurred and people were offended when the Corinthian believers shared meals with idolaters and had to decide whether to eat the meats previously sacrificed to idols served them. It would seem this was a significant problem. Corinth was a city dominated by the influence of immoral idolatry, tolerance for multiple religions and Hellenism. The conscience of the new believers and non-believers alike was sick. The fear of

the Lord, as in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, was an unheard of concept and had to be yet developed. Furthermore the compromising situations faced by the saints of Corinth were similar to what is faced in society, family and Church today. I believe a weak conscience dominates most Christians today.

WOUNDED OR VIOLATED CONSCIENCE

1 Corinthians 8:6-12 goes on to say that a weak conscience may become wounded or abusively violated if certain considerations aren't taken when dealing with the weak conscience. A wounded conscience, as defined by the Greek word translated for wound, means to thump or pummel something with repeated blows resulting in offense or unjust punishment. A weak conscience becomes wounded when stronger-willed individuals, in the case of this Biblical passage, repetitively beat down the already weak will of another by denying the weaker individual the right of standing up for what they believe to be true or according to conscience. It generally occurs when someone is forced to do something, be something or yield to something that he or she feels is wrong and isn't allowed the right to maintain personal choice and individuality. Persons who've experienced such abuse have difficulty personally recognizing God's voice and often feel an unidentified anger or grief from the unresolved and buried conflict. In most cases the violated individual will deny that he or she has been hurt in order to protect the person who broke them. This occurs in all sorts of situations and environments, even Christian circles. Revelations 2:6,15 cites the example of the Nicolaitans whose name is defined as "conquering the laity. God hates the doctrine of the Nicolaitans because it ig-

nores individuality in favor of the absolute command of the leadership. This practice breaks down the will and affects persons whose conscience is weak and wounds them by causing unnecessary offenses. Bear in mind that some people will be offended no matter what condition their conscience is and often because they have no respect for decisions of the leadership. But this is not the case in connection with this condition of conscience. The roots for this doctrine originate in a ruler named Nimrod, the founder of ancient Babylon and one whose influence affects dictatorial leaders throughout history. Nimrod, whose name means rebellion, was said to be a mighty hunter before the Lord in Gen. 10:6-14. Various theological scholars all state that the most accurate translation of this passage is that Nimrod was a mighty hunter



of men. One of the points made in Matthew Henry's commentary on Gen 10:6-14 state that Nimrod gathered men under his command in order to make himself master of the country and to bring the people into subjection by violently invading his neighbor's properties and rights, persecuting the innocent and taking everything before him by force and violence. The Septuagint states that he was a might hunter against the Lord. A wounded conscience originates with this type of inconsiderate dominating mindset stemming from the Babylonian tyrant. This condition of conscience is undoubtedly going to increasingly reappear in the Last Days as the foundations of Babylon reemerge in the earth. We need to take serious heed to this

lest we participate with it's scheme and wound the conscience of those we encounter as weak in the faith.

1 Cor 8:6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.7 Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol: and their conscience being weak is defiled.8 But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse.9 But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.10 For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols;11 And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?12 But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.

Revelation 2:6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.KJV

Revelation 2:15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.KJV

Genesis 10:9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.KJV

DEFILED CONSCIENCE

The defiled conscience, mentioned twice in 1 Cor. 8:7 and Titus 1:15-16, though from two different Greek words, describes a conscience that has become contaminated ceremonially or morally. It's tainted and virtually untrustworthy. This deceitful condition is the epitome of denial. It generally originates from unresolved bitterness or is also caused by a weak conscience that has been broken by stronger personalities and compromises. The defilement is generally gradual and if originating from bitterness strengthens itself by the justification of un-forgiveness and bitter actions, similar to Esau mentioned in Hebrew 12. In most cases, when a defiled conscience exists, that person will eventually yield to fornication or profanity. Note that it can't be affectively confronted, corrected or repented of. A defiled conscience says one thing, attesting to great faith and fearing God, while living absolutely the opposite of what they say they believe. Conviction can't penetrate this self-deceived soul. Targeting this conscience is especially difficult because it has come to excusably accept unholy behaviors as tolerable, and is very

close to being seared. Faith dies when this condition is present even though persons possessing such a conscience make great claims of knowing God they are almost impossible to reach.

1 Cor 8:7 Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.

Titus 1:15 Unto the pure all things are pure; but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. 16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Heb 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled: 16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. KJV

THE EVIL CONSCIENCE

An unsaved person is spiritually dead. Consequently, the conscience of the unbeliever is dominated by death, not entirely trustworthy, although still functioning. Hebrews 10:22 states that those who draw near to God with a true heart in full assurance of faith have had their hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience. The conscience of the unsaved is described as evil. The Greek word used to translate this word speaks about a hurtful evil in effect or influences as originating from Satan's type of evil and mischief. It is morally corrupt and desperately needing salvation.

Heb 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

A SEARED CONSCIENCE

1 Tim 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

Paul's first letter to Timothy warns believers that in the Last

Days Christians will depart from the faith paying attention to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, all the while hypocritically speaking lies because their conscience is seared. This passage isn't written for unbelievers. It's directed toward the saints and indicates that this frightening desensitized condition of conscience will exist in the Church before Jesus returns. A seared conscience is one that has been rendered insensitive and doesn't feel conviction for sin or guilt because internal and sometimes verbal repetitive excuses have been made for sinful behavior. These wrong attitudes gradually cauterize the conscience's ability to repent and respond to the fear of God. This condition is one in



which the person has an "I don't care attitude" about their actions, and consequences as it affects him or her or others. It may occur entirely, affecting all areas of life or generally according to the roots of self-will reinforced by bitterness toward God or man. Christians need to understand that this isn't just a possibility. It will happen. Therefore it's of absolute necessity that a right perspective on the teaching of the Fear of the Lord be presented to as many believers as possible as young as possible in hope that this prophetic warning can be avoided and before it's too late.

Spiritually and practically speaking an individual conscience is generally formed by the time a child is three or four years old. By this age the youngster has hopefully learned to understand basic principles of right and wrong behavior, a discernment for God's presence accompanied by a dis-taste for

counterfeit spirituality, a respect for authority figures (including God), recognition of family structure, boundaries of respect, privacy and ownership and the consequences for violating these things. Denver District attorney, Norman S. Early, stated in the January 1994 issue of USA Today that "I would rather build a child than rebuild an adult". Age carries with it great difficulties especially when considering dealings with conscience. The older a person is the more the resistance faced per conscious change. This radically affects how we interact and relate in the world. Therefore, society would benefit greatly if the Fear of the Lord were communicated in the early years of human development. Crime would decrease. Learning would increase, not to say of what could happen in the healthy development of ethics, morals and justice.

Various factors contribute to the development of the fear of the Lord in conscience and establish the healthy or unhealthy parameters that determine if the Fear of God is the governing oversight. But if we're really going to understand how this occurs we must examine what manners of teaching the Scriptures reveal that communicates the message of the Fear of the Lord. In our next teaching we'll learn that the Bible shows us that there are basically seven different means of expression that God uses to train humankind in the concepts of fearing Him. If we're to do justice to this, and keep a balanced approach we must take the time to provide a thorough extensive examination, as this message dare not be generalized. Finally until we learn how to target the conscience with the correct approach of this message we'll not see a restoration of this message on the Fear of the Lord.

NEXT ISSUE! PART THREE

Understanding the Fear of the Lord

THE EXPRESSIONS GOD USES TO TEACH THE FEAR OF THE LORD

Institutes For Biblical Truth is experiencing MORE growing pains. The new basement bathroom in Cornelius House 2 is almost complete. Hallelujah! We hope to begin landscaping soon as well as painting the ceiling of the classroom. Staff arrive for training for the next full Institute on June 20th. Students will arrive on July 1st. We'll also be looking to purchasing a large TV and DVD/ Video player for classroom use.

CANADA MEETINGS

Tamara spoke from June 2nd-5th in a joint conference with Steven Lightle in Woodslee and Leamington Ontario Canada on the theme "Salvation is of the Jews". The messages covered such topics as God's promises to the nations through Abraham; Enlarging the Tent; Dealing with Moab; Worldwide Evangelism is Dependent on Blessing the Jews and Israel; The Progression and Influence of Hellenistic Thought concerning Christians and Jews; Sheep and Goat Nations, The Spirit of Rejection and Preparing for Harvest. It was amazing how

each message overlapped and was well received. An abundant offering was also received for the

extremely intense. No one wanted to leave so Tamara taught till past midnight on the Babylonian affects on Praise and Worship today. It was a memorable eve-

UPDATES RENOVATIONS & MEETING REPORTS

ministry Bridges for Peace a ministry largely affecting Israel and the Jews. God deposited a wealth of understanding concerning Israel and how Christians must understand the Jewish role in Last Day's Global evangelism.

SINGAPORE MEETINGS

Several churches and organizations hosted Tamara in a series of conferences and the Institutes For Biblical Truth Seminar on Biblical Perspectives on Business. Each set of meetings was well attended and powerful. Her first meeting was at Tanglin Fellowship. God had supernaturally arranged for her to record the semi-professional live worship recording. To everyone's surprise Maurice Sklar, an amazing and anointed classical violinist accompanied Tamara for nearly 2 and a half hours of worship. The presence of God was

ning that none will forget. 28 students and 5 staff with wonderful results attended the Business Seminar. Each student was shocked when they received almost 700 pages of original Biblically outlined materials in this Level One Institute Seminar course. Following the fourth class of the Wednesday classes, the glory of God filled the classroom and some intense and powerful prayer resulted for the business sectors of Singapore and Malaysia. Tamara spoke at an amazing Methodist Church on Intimacy with God. The meetings were phenomenal and refreshing to everyone as the Glory cloud moved in almost every night. The meetings were well attended and the power of God was awesome each evening. Her final meetings were in a small house church where she taught on Hearing the Voice of the Lord Prophetically. The messages were clear and very helpful to all who had never really understood the topic Biblically.

UPCOMING 2005 SCHEDULE

July 8th-20th - Prep for Institute Staff Training; Writing books; House renovations; Painting; Landscaping

June 20th-July 1st - Institutes for Biblical Truth Staff Training

July 1st- 23rd - Institutes for Biblical Truth Basics Level One

September 30th-October 1st - Fall Women's Retreat Grand Rapids, MN

FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK THE WEBSITE tamarawinslow.com