

**INTRODUCTION:**

**1. WHAT IS THE CONSCIENCE AND WHAT DOES IT DO?**

**a. The *definition* of conscience**

**b. The *nature* of conscience**

**2. 1 CORINTHIANS 8-10**

**(1) Knowledge puffs up; love builds up (8:1).**

**(2) Our knowledge of the Bible and theology is limited (8:2).**

**(3) The mark of a true Christian is love for God (8:3-6).**

**(4) We must be cautious that we do not draw wrong conclusions from God's Word (8:4-6).**

**(5) Love must prevail because arrogant liberty can ruin other believers (8:7-12).**

**(6) To sin against another believer is to sin against Christ (8:11-12).**

**(7) Christlike—sacrificial and self-denying—love is the remedy (8:13).**

**(8) Paul surrendered his apostolic rights for the good of the Corinthians (9:1-27).**

**(9) Christlike, self-denying love is the remedy (10:1-31).**

**3. ROMANS 14-15**

**(1) Christ's congregations are usually made up of strong and weak consciences (14:1-2).**

- (2) God receives His children whether strong or weak (14:3-4).**
- (3) All believers should be fully persuaded in what they believe (14:5).**
- (4) Jesus alone is the Lord of his people and their consciences (14:5-9).**
- (5) All believers will give account of their lives in the Day of Judgment (14:10-13a).**
- (6) We must not let our liberty destroy a weaker believer (14:13b-17).**
- (7) All believers should seek peace with other believers (14:18-20).**
- (8) All believers should deny themselves for the well-being of others (14:21).**
- (9) All believers must embrace or reject what they do by faith (14:22-23).**
- (10) The strong must not please themselves but build up others as Christ did (15:1-3a).**

#### **4. APPLICATIONS:**

- (1) Above all, we must have a right understanding of the gospel and justification by faith alone.***
- (2) We must load our consciences with the pure Word of God.***
- (3) We must enliven our consciences by communing with God.***
- (4) We must care for and encourage the consciences of God's people.***

#### **CONCLUSION:**