

## A Barking Conscience

Hebrews 9:1-10

# The Haunting Cries of a Guilty Conscience

A nagging conscience. It's like being awakened in the middle of the night. How do you quiet it? How do you silence it. For part of the day the canine of conscience sleeps, for which you are thankful. But sooner or later it awakens once again as an unwelcome nuisance with its incessant hounding and barking, refusing to be trained. Refusing to heal on command. And what does that conscience do? It refuses to let you escape the guilt of wrongdoing. Now it is internal to be sure. No-one near to you may be aware of the torment of your unpardoned guilt. But just as sure as if your foot had been caught in the teeth of a steel trap, your conscience will not allow you the experience of freedom.

#### Conscience

"The conscience is properly man's inner knowledge of himself especially for his answerability for his motives and actions in view of the fact that he as a creature made in the image of God stands before and must give an account of himself to his Creator."

#### Freedom

There is nothing that you could do to free yourself from a guilty conscience. But this doesn't mean you cannot be free from a guilty conscience.

## Two Types of Conscience

1. Tender Conscience

2. Hardened Conscience

#### The Old Covenant Tabernacle

- 1. The Outer Court
- 2. The Holy Place
- 3. The Most Holy Place

### 3 Examples of Dealing with Conscience

- 1. Aaron and the Golden calf
- 2. The rich young ruler
- 3. David in adultery

## Putting the barking Dog to death

"Conscience is not an enemy to be hated but a friend to be heeded. It is a great gift from God prodding you to seek asylum in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ."