

# A Matter of Conscience

Shabbat Message  
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Isaiah 30:21-And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, whenever you turn to the right hand, and whenever you turn to the left.

Quoting from the writings of Matthew Henry we read; from behind you, from someone you do not see, but who sees you. Your eyes see your teachers; but this is a teacher that is out of sight, it is your own conscience. Which shall now by the grace of God be awakened to do it's office (or duty).

What does the Bible, the Word of God mean to you? Do you view it as a source of historical value, or moral value of how men and women should conduct themselves with each other and their relationship with God.

The love, hate, pain and struggles we endure and the actions we take according to our own conscience can also be found within the scriptures of those that we read about from the writings given to men by God. They are not just stories to be read and than forgotten. We should see them and learn from them.

Are the commandments given to us by God something to live by, or are they just suggestions as some would like to believe.

At one time our society (both politicians and citizens) agreed to laws for how we were to conduct ourselves, or to respect an individuals right to live their life as they see fit without interference or fear of being arrested for what or who they believe in, or did, as long as it didn't interfere with what society agreed as to what behaviors were moral and proper.

How things have changed, today concerning behaviors that are moral and acceptable.

We elect public officials (by permission of the governed) to implement into our society laws and policies and to bring new policies of law and order when required for the betterment of our lives. Key words here are for the betterment of our lives within our society.

But where should these policies or rules for a polite society, a functioning society come from, man or God? What should be used as a standard for morality.

Policies of man many times create situations that go from good to bad and man expects those that these bad policies are created to govern, should bow down to them and worship what those that seek power over others want them to do, without having to abide by the same laws themselves. Rules for thee but not me.

And this is nothing new with a world view. Throughout history many of those in authority of those governed, more times than not abused those under them, and made a conscience choice to excuse others of questionable behaviors and actions.

**Romans 2: 13 -15.** For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but it is the doers

of the law who will be declared righteous. **14**Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. **15**So they show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts either accusing or defending them.

Certain people whom are in authority change the meaning of man's laws when those laws become an inconvenience to them.

No policy, from any man or woman (in our time as a nation) that have been elected to serve those they represent, nor even those within in the church leadership can change anyone's heart or mind, to follow and do what is right and shun evil and corruption.

Only God and the acceptance of Yeshua as Lord and Savior can make such a change to one's heart and mind, to do good and turn from that which is evil, if one is willing.

One has to be willing to accept the transformation of ones heart and mind.

What is a Christian today is like asking the question of many people; what is a woman? The safe answer would be, what ever you identify as.

Christians with a worldly view will tell you that Yeshua was sent as a sacrifice for everyone's sin so therefore it doesn't matter if you sin or not. God will still let you into His kingdom.

God is love, kind, forgiving. He knows what you are going to do so don't worry about it. I've heard a few men and women of faith (I use that term loosely) say just that. And from a non-believer, God doesn't exist so it won't matter what one does.

Is it really that easy?

Just do as you please and everyone gets the same participation trophy, or the other answer, you'll never know. Neither heaven or hell exists.

John 3:3. Yeshua replied, "Truly, truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. 4" How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Can he enter his mother's womb a second time to be reborn?" 5 Yeshua answered, "Truly, truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh is born of flesh, but spirit is born of Spirit.

Simply put a heart change, a renewing of ones mind to do that which God would have them do, removing the desire of power for control over others, to submitting to the will of God for ones own life, by being baptized and letting the Holy Spirit from God guide you and change one's stinking thinking and a desire of ill perceived power over others.

Time for a wake up call.

That's been a problem of mankind from the very beginning of the world hasn't it. Stinking, thinking. I want to rule the world and have power and control over others.

Why is it always a fight to do what is right and moral? Even if one does not believe in God common sense should prevail if nothing else.

I must do what my conscience compels me to do. Even if it's wrong? What if it's evil?

Why did God give us this thing we call a conscience? What is the meaning of having a conscience.

It's an inner feeling or voice viewed as acting as a guide to the rightness or wrongness of one's behavior, or choice, "he had a guilty conscience about his actions" · "it may not change anything, but you will have a clear conscience".

Let me read Isaiah 30:21 again.

And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, whenever you turn to the right hand, and whenever you turn to the left.

That word we hear is our conscience, the unseen Spirit of God forever and always with us. At least those that believe.

We're to use it as a guide to make right decisions and hopefully avoid the wrong ones. For the betterment of not only ourselves but others. Yet many times one will hear, I did it because my conscience compelled me to do so, when something shouldn't have been said or a choice should never have been made. Or at the very least, think about it before you commit to it.

Hitler, Mussolini, Lenin and others did what their conscience compelled them to do. Many suffered for it and many more lost their lives, but they were compelled to do bad things.

It certainly was not God's Spirit they were listening to.

**John 8 :43-44 . 43**Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you are unable to accept My message. **44**You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out his desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, refusing to uphold the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

Is the fight for the White House or any one of many things one desires of this world, more important than ones soul. It's important that good leadership be within our government.

**Mark 8:36 -37** What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? **37.** Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

Once you lose it, you won't get it back.

Those in leadership, those in authority of others, should uphold biblical morality within and for society, not lawlessness if a society is to survive. They should be the first ones to submit to God and His will.

And also those whom seek God for life eternal with Him.

What is one's soul worth.

Some of us here today struggle and fight with ourselves in listening to that quiet voice (our conscience) as we fight with submitting ourselves to God and His will. Let's admit it, we fight with ourselves over what we want to do. One has to stop and consider the cost.

We have a lot of problems in our country today, that never seem to have a solution. Is it because there are no solutions for these problems, or is it because there are no solutions due to the fact some want control over others. They want it their way and if it isn't, they will fight tooth and nail and destroy someones life, until it is.

Our conscience should guide us in our lives everyday in everything we do? If not what does that say about us as God's people, why even recite the Shema as we do together every Shabbot.

Are we taking those words we recite seriously or, are we just going through the motions.

Abortion, murder, lying, cheating, stealing, corruption. All of these have a solution. We find the solution to all these problems and more from the word of God in Exodus 20, the commandments relating to God and man. The Ten Commandments, directly revealed by God to Moses, and passed down to us by His word.

And if one doesn't find it there, look to any of the other 613 commandments of God. Read the Bible. How difficult is that concept to understand for those seeking God's will and purpose for their lives.

The **613 commandments** are divided into 365 prohibitions and 248 positive commandments.

The last 4 years of the Biden /Harris administration has been nothing short of complete lawlessness that was by those whom are caught up with worldly things, insisted was good and moral and those that spoke out against said administration and what it was attempting to do needed to be eliminated / silenced.

Those in the last administration and others that agreed and accepted the lies, and lawlessness, began forcing their will and beliefs as to what the world should be for all, and if one refused to accept it, and spoke out against it, you could and would be arrested and prosecuted and sent to prison. As the world sat and watched many that were.

But than those of lawlessness and immorality, only did what their conscience compelled them to do.

Christians must not force their opinions on others we were told. And that is true, you can't force someone to believe in a divine creator when they see themselves as a god or rely on their own rules. And some of those that made that statement were pastors, priests and popes that decided certain sins were no longer sins. A conscience choice they made.

Judge not lest you be judged yourself. That verse is well known by those that sin blatantly. They take that as a verse to simply say, your truth is not my truth. What they don't see is that it's not my truth, nor your truth. It's God's truth.

God wasn't caught of guard with the evil things they would do, did, and are still doing even though they have left. This shows one how little they know about God.

His words were put in print for all to see, Romans chapter 1 shares that with all that would seek Him. The non-believer and in particular those that sin continuously day and night should pay close attention to verses 18 through 32.

There are certain truths that all Christians must accept because they are the foundation of and for their faith.

Lean not onto your own understanding, we know the meaning of that sentence. We are to seek the one that is true and faithful, not seek that which man will give if we bow down to them.

1 Timothy 1:19 - Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

Simple translation; you found your faith, you knew what was the right thing to do, and yet you threw it all away for what something that brings one temporary satisfaction? Your life is now devastated and destroyed. And maybe others along with you.

It's difficult being a Christian in today's society, holding on to God's truth and a conscience to do what is right. Lot's of temptations of the world and from those in it, that if you just compromise just this one time to do it their way and give in to wickedness, you'll have all you ever could desire.

We call those politicians. There are others but that's a message for another day.

Listen, your going to be tempted by many that want something from you or want you to do something that is wrong, and if you don't give in they'll say bad things about you and accuse you of all kinds of nasty things. Remember this verse, in fact write this down today and carry it with you.

**1 Peter 3:16 - Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.**

In closing, I would ask you to listen to that quiet voice behind you, walk always in all the ways of God day and night. Pray faithfully when seeking an answer in everything you put your hand to and know that the Spirit of God is always with you. Amen, Shabbat Shalom.