## **Happy Is He That Condemneth Not Himself**

## I. Introduction:

- A. Some of the things we do or do not do comes down to your conscience and even the conscience of others (I Corinthians 10:23-33).
- B. We need to have a good, pure conscience (I Timothy 1:5; 1:19-20).
  - 1. Good ["ἀγαθός"; Strong's # 18] as in the opposite of evil (**Romans 16:19**).
  - 2. Conscience ["συνείδησις"; Strong's # 4893] as in moral consciousness; distinguishing between what is morally good and bad (**John 8:1-9**).
  - 3. With balance, for a good conscience doesn't mean what we do or do not do is right (i.e. **Acts 23:1**; **Acts 9:1-2**; cf. **John 16:1-3**).
- II. Body: Context: Romans 14:1-15:7 (Our Lesson Is From Romans 14:22)
  - A. How's your faith; assurance in the things you say and do (**Hebrews 10:22**)?
    - 1. The conscience we all have means we there are things we know, naturally (**Romans 2:12-16**).
    - 2. If you come back to the words written to Timothy, he was told to hold the faith in a pure conscience (**I Timothy 3:9**).
    - 3. Lacking purity and faith impacts the conscience (**Titus 1:15**).
    - 4. Aside from what we know naturally, think about the word "conscience". Do you see "science" there? What is science? The English word appears in I Timothy 6:20 and means knowledge (Strong's # 1108).
    - 5. How does knowledge and faith help with decisions involving our consciences (**Proverbs 13:16** and **Hebrews 10:38**)?
    - 6. Where do we find knowledge and faith (**Proverbs 2:6** and **Romans 10:17**)?
  - B. Are you happy with your present choices (Acts 26:1-2; cf. I Peter 3:14-17)?
    - 1. I say "present choices", for there are things we may have repented of in our pasts that we are in no way happy with (**Romans 6:20-21**).
    - 2. There are choices people make that "seem right", but only lead to sorrow (**Proverbs 14:12-13**).
    - 3. What about the value of <u>wise counsel</u> in being happy with our lawful choices (I Corinthians 7:25-28; 7:39-40; cf. Proverbs 11:14)?
  - C. You can condemn yourself even in matters of liberty (I John 3:19-21).
    - 1. If you act with doubts (**Luke 12:29** and **James 1:8**) as we all know better than (**Proverbs 20:25** and **Ephesians 5:10**).
    - 2. When your liberty becomes your stumbling-block (I Corinthians 8:6-7).
    - 3. If your liberty becomes a law (I Timothy 4:1-5).
- III. Conclusion: If you want a clear conscience and happiness... **Proverbs 3:13-26!**