LAW

LIMITS OF CONSCIENCE

• Ro 7:7-13 NKJV; What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet." 8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead. 9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. 10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death....

• Ro 7:7-13 NKJV; ...11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me. 12 Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good. 13 Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

- PREMISE TO DATE
- DEFINITION OF LAW
- IMPLICATIONS OF LAW
- DEFINITION OF CONSCIENCE
- CONSCIENCE IN ACTION

- PREMISE TO DATE
 - GOD IS OMNIPOTENT CREATOR WITH RIGHTS OF OWNERSHIP
 - RIGHT TO COMMAND, KEEP OR DISPOSE
 - GOD'S RIGHTS ARE UNQUESTIONABLE

PREMISE TO DATE

- RIGHTS OF CREATED ARE LIMITED
 - APPLIES TO UNIVERSE
 - APPLIES TO MAN
 - FAMILY
 - COMMUNITY
 - CHURCH

Job 38:4-11 NKJV; "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? 6 To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, 7 When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy? 8 "Or who shut in the sea with doors, When it burst forth and issued from the womb; 9 When I made the clouds its garment, And thick darkness its swaddling band; 10 When I fixed My limit for it, And set bars and doors; 11 When I said, 'This far you may come, but no farther, And here your proud waves must stop!'

- DEFINITION OF LAW
- law. NOUN
- 1. (the law)
- the system of rules that a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and may enforce by the imposition of penalties:
- an individual rule as part of a system of law:
- synonyms: regulation statute enactment act bill decree edict bylaw -
- •systems of law as a subject of study or as the basis of the legal profession: Compare with jurisprudence.
- synonyms: the legal profession the bar

DEFINITION OF LAW

- 2.a statement of fact, deduced from observation, to the effect that a
 particular natural or scientific phenomenon always occurs if certain conditions
 are present:
- 3.the body of divine commandments as expressed in the Bible or other religious texts.
- synonyms: principle rule precept directive injunction commandment belief -

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• DEFINITION OF LAW (Romans 7)

- Law is the expression of God's rights to direct, spoken or codified
- Law defines sin
- Law is designed to bring life
- Law (body of law) is holy
- Commandment (specific law) is holy, just and good
- Sin produces death through commandment (law is punitive)

IMPLICATIONS OF LAW

- God's authority is absolute
- Law must be obeyed
- Breach of law must be punished
- Law imposes death
- · Therefore all men die

Ro 5:12-14 NKJV; Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-- 13 (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

DEFINITION OF CONSCIENCE

- Sin produces death
- How then does one refrain from sin?
- Love the Creator
- Lu 16:13 NKJV; "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the
 one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the
 other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

DEFINITION OF CONSCIENCE

- How then does one refrain from sin?
- Know the Law
- Col 1:9,10 NKJV; For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not
 cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of
 His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk
 worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and
 increasing in the knowledge of God;

DEFINITION OF CONSCIENCE

- How then does one refrain from sin?
- Exercise the Conscience
- 1Ti 1:5 NKJV; Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,
- 1Ti 1:19 NKJV; having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck,
- 1Ti 3:9 NKJV; holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.

DEFINITION OF CONSCIENCE

- con-science. NOUN
- an inner feeling or voice viewed as acting as a guide to the rightness or wrongness of one's behavior:
 - "he had a guilty conscience about his desires"
- synonyms: sense of right and wrong · moral sense · inner voice · morals · standards · values · principles · ethics · beliefs · compunction · scruples · qualms

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- CONSCIENCE IN ACTION
- Ro 2:14 NKJV; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the
 things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves,
 15 who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also
 bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else
 excusing them)

- Bears witness
- Accuses
- Excuses

- CONSCIENCE IN ACTION
- Joh 8:7-9 NKJV; So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." 8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

Convicts

- CONSCIENCE IN ACTION
- 2Co 1:12 NKJV; For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you.
- Testimony
- 2Co 4:2 NKJV; But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.
- Commendation, Endorsement

- CONSCIENCE IN ACTION
- 1Pe 3:21 NKJV; There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
- Motivation
- Ro 13:5 NKJV; Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.
- Heb 13:18 NKJV; Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably.

- LIMITS OF CONSCIENCE
- 1Co 8:4-12 NKJV; Therefore concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one. 5 For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), 6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live. 7 ¶ However, there is not in everyone that knowledge; for some, with consciousness of the idol, until now eat it as a thing offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

- LIMITS OF CONSCIENCE
- 1Co 8:4-12 NKJV cont; 8 But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. 9 But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. 10 For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? 11 And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? 12 But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.

- LIMITS OF CONSCIENCE
- Lack of Knowledge
- Weak Conscience with actions not motivated by faith
- Leads to a Defiled Conscience
- Tit 1:15 NKJV; To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.
- 1Ti 4:2 NKJV; speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,
- Seared

WHAT IS THE TESTIMONY OF YOUR CONSCIENCE?

• 1Pe 3:21 NKJV; There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

• Heb 10:22 NKJV; 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.