

## THE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

### **WHEN CONDEMNATION MEETS CONFIDENCE**

1 John 3:18-24      Jeff Schreve

*We shall know by this that we are of the truth, and shall assure our heart before Him, in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 1 John 3:19-20*

#### **Is your spiritual confidence plagued by a condemning heart?**

##### **1. Your heart is the ruling center of your life.**

*As in water face reflects face, So the heart of man reflects man.  
Proverbs 27:19*

- A. Your heart will always condemn you for unconfessed sin.
- B. Your heart will often condemn you for confessed sin.
- C. Your heart must be brought into submission to the Word.

##### **2. A right heart experiences confidence in prayer.**

*Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight. 1 John 3:21-22*

- A. God will not hear us if we are harboring sin.  
*If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear.  
Psalm 66:18*
- B. God will not hear us if we aren't right with others.  
*"If therefore you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, and go your way; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering." Matthew 5:23-24*
- C. God will gladly hear and answer when our heart is right.  
*Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16*

**3. A right heart comes from a right relationship with Jesus.**

*And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. And the one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And we know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. 1 John 3:23-24*

- A. When we believe in Christ, we have His love within.
- B. When we believe in Christ, we have a desire to obey Him.
- C. When we believe in Christ, we have His Spirit within.

*In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.  
Ephesians 1:13-14*

**You can walk in confidence, if you will walk in the light.**