

“The Necessity Of Conviction”

Lesson Text: **Romans 14:20-23 (NASB; NRSV).**

I. The Meaning Of Conviction.

- **Conviction:** 1. The State Of Being Convinced. 2. A Strong Persuasion Or Belief.
- **Convict: 1. *elencho***— signifies (a) “to convict, confute, refute,” usually with the suggestion of putting the convicted person to shame; see **Matt. 18:15**, where more than telling the offender his fault is in view; it is used of “convicting” of sin, **John 8:46; 16:8**.
(Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (Vol. 2, p. 128).
- Convicted Of Wrong Doing Or Convictions About Our Strongly Held Beliefs?
 - The Purpose Of This Lesson Is To Know The Difference...

II. When We Are Convicted Of Sin.

- **John 8:1-11.** Convicted Of Wrong Motives, Wrong Doing?
- **Acts 2:29-37.** Fulfillment of **John 16:8**.
 - Not A Supernatural Working On Men, But An Appeal To Do Right.
 - **Isaiah 1:18; Ezekiel 33:11.**
 - How? Through Gospel Preaching- **1 Corinthians 1:18-21.**
 - Conviction Of Sin Reaches To The Heart- **Acts 2:37-41** Compared To **Acts 7:51-60.**
 - The Right Reaction Depends On The Soil Of The Heart- **Luke 8:11-15; 1 Cor. 1:22-24.**
- **Acts 24:25.** Felix Trembled Out Of Conviction, But Not Converted To The Truth.
- **1 Corinthians 5:1-8—2 Corinthians 7:8-11.**
- **Jude 14-15.** One Day Convicted Sinners Will Be Punished By God.
 - This Is Why We Do Not Want To Be On The Wrong Side Of God’s Justice!

III. The Need To Develop Strong Convictions Or Beliefs.

- We Must Be Convicted Or Be Convinced Of Truth. **Hebrews 11:1.**
- What Happens When We Don’t Have Convictions?
 - Truth Becomes Less Important To Us.
 - We Are Not Equipped To Work In God’s Kingdom Properly.
 - What Would We Teach Others? No Convictions = No Message.
 - What Kind Of Influence Do We Have On The World?
- Many Look At Christianity At Large As Being Conviction-less:
 - “Doesn’t Matter What You Believe.” “We Shouldn’t Speak About What’s Right Or Wrong.”
 - “Preacher, Don’t Step On Anyone’s Toes.” “Just Preach General Truth, Don’t Get Specific.”

IV. When We Have Strong Convictions About Truth.

- We Are Like Joseph- **Genesis 39:9.**
- We Are Like Joshua- **Joshua 24:15.**
- We Are Like Daniel- **Daniel 6:10.**
- We Are Like Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego- **Daniel 3:17-18.**
- We Are Like Peter- **Acts 5:29.**
- We Are Like Paul- **Galatians 2:5.**
- We Are Like Jesus- **Mark 11:17.**