

12 For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you. 13 For we are not writing to you anything other than what you read and understand and I hope you will fully understand — 14 just as you did partially understand us—that on the day of our Lord Jesus you will boast of us as we will boast of you.

15 Because I was sure of this, I wanted to come to you first, so that you might have a second experience of grace. 16 I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia, and to come back to you from Macedonia and have you send me on my way to Judea. 17 Was I vacillating when I wanted to do this? Do I make my plans according to the flesh, ready to say "Yes, yes" and "No, no" at the same time?

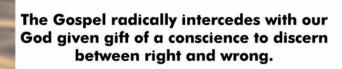
18 As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been Yes and No. 19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. 20 For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.

21 And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, 22 and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. 23 But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming again to Corinth. 24 Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith.

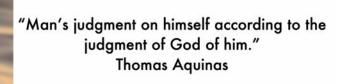
-2 Corinthians 1:12-24

- The Gospel gives clarity to the conscience
- Gospel promises anchor you in God's faithfulness
- 3. The Gospel reminds you who you are

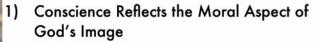




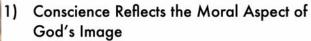
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 Conscience Reflects the Moral Aspect of God's Image



2) Conscience Feels Independent



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- No One's Conscience Perfectly Matches God's Will

2. Gospel Promises Anchor You in God's Faithfulness

People will disappoint you, God's promises never will.

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-2 Corinthians 1:15-20

"All the promises of God find their Yes in him" (2 Cor. 1:20). What a strange statement! What does it mean for God's promises to "find their Yes" in Christ? Reading this statement in light of the entire New Testament teaching, we know that Paul is saying that the entire Old Testament, the whole history of God's dealings with his people and all that he has promised them, is

fulfilled in and through Jesus. He clinches, integrates, and brings to completion God's promises to be with his people, restore them, raise them from the dead, give them new life, and ultimately establish a new heaven and a new earth (Rev. 21:1). With Jesus, we see God as unshakably reliable and unswervingly trustworthy. Everything will be put right one day.

Every longing of ours will be abundantly satisfied. For Christ has come. He is the living proof that God's words of promise and comfort are not empty statements.

-Dane Ortlund

3. The Gospel Reminds Us Who We Are

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