

## Confidence for Troubled Hearts | 1 John 3:19-24

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. 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 what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

## The Difference Between Condemnation and Conviction

### 1. Truth and Reassurance

### 2. Condemnation and Conviction

## Confidence Before God

### 1. Confidence in Prayer

- "Prayer is something in which we turn our backs upon everything else, excluding everything else, while, for the time being, we find ourselves face to face with God alone." (Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones)

- "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

### 2. Confidence in Requests

#### a. Obedience (action)

#### b. Disposition (heart)

- "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

### 3. The Root of Confidence

#### a. Belief in the name of Jesus Christ

#### b. Love for one another

- "Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it may become defiled..." (Hebrews 12:14-15)

## The Holy Spirit

### 1. The Work of the Holy Spirit

a. Abide;

b. Progress not perfection

- "If we would set our hearts at rest, when they accuse and condemn us, we must look for evidence of the Spirit's working, and particularly whether he is enabling us to believe in Christ, to obey God's commands and to love our brothers; for the condition of Christ dwelling in us and of our dwelling in him is this comprehensive obedience and the evidence of the indwelling is the gift of the Spirit." (John Stott)

### Benediction | Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.