

# A "Seared" conscious!

October 31, 2022

**1 TIMOTHY 4:1-2 (KJV)** - (1) Now the Spirit expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; (2) speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience **seared** with a hot iron.

Synonym: Scorched; closed; hence; figuratively; insensible; not susceptible to moral influence; burned; branded with the mark of sin; reprobate; calloused; apostasy (dealing in falsehood beyond the reach of the human conscience); man's human intellect (intelligence) completely dead and cannot see (understand) anything Spiritual.

The human conscience is a cognitive process of emotions, senses, and rationalizations based on moral philosophy or/ moral value system. Paul spoke on devotion in **1 Timothy 4:1-2** as deceitful spirits and teaching demons. By default, giving allegiance to one god or to another. There is only one good, that's God. That goodness of a Godly conscience has the capability to discern right from wrong; and is free from all sin and guilt. Repent, rather than be Seared!

Scriptures references for seared conscious are as follows: **John 8:44, Isaiah 5:20, Titus 1:15-16, Geneses 6:5, Jeremiah 44:5, Ezekiel 3:19, Micah 3:7, Jeremiah 6:15, Jeremiah 17:9, Romans 2:5 and Ephesians 4:19.**

Paul's prediction is that certain people associated with the Christian church will "depart." This verse, in and of itself, gives no specific indication whether these people are true believers who were deceived, or unbelievers. In either case, they were part of the church family, but later separate themselves from the faith. The motivation for their departure will be spiritual deception. This might involve actual spirit worship, common in the ancient world or, this may be a vague reference to false teachings (**1 Timothy 4:3**).

Paul's description of false teachers in Ephesus continues from verse 1. Here, he adds the idea that these dangerous voices are not entirely honest. He describes them using the Greek terms *hypokrisei* and *pseudologōn*. These are literally "hypocrites and liars." Upcoming verses will detail the restrictions they place on others. At least some of these are points which the false teachers themselves don't actually ascribe to (**1 Timothy 1:7**). A true "hypocrite" is not one who teaches something they fail to follow, but one who teaches something they don't really believe.

Paul's phrasing about the conscience comes from a single Greek word: *kekaustēriasmenōn*. This literally means "to be branded with a hot iron," and is often translated simply as "seared." One of the unfortunate side-effects of a deep burn is the destruction of nerves. A person whose body is branded frequently loses sensation in that spot. In the same way, it is possible for a person to be dulled to their own sin (**Ephesians 4:19**).

Do not be deceived! There are many among us today. Pray for discernment. Pray for the people of God.

**SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 8:44**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** It is better to have a sore than to have a "Seared" conscious.

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"