

DAY 15 – 1 TIMOTHY 1:19

“holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith.”

This, of course, is a continuation of yesterday's passage in the first chapter of the letter to Timothy. It is an exhortation to Timothy, “Timothy, my dear child, I am placing before you a charge for the mission ahead. It is in total agreement with the prophecies once spoken over you. Here it is: with God’s message stirring and directing you, fight the good fight, armed with faith and a good conscience. Some have tried to silence their consciences, wrecking their lives and ruining their faiths.”

He speaks of the armor of faith and fighting the good fight using the shield of faith and your good conscience as weapons. The shield of faith, of course, is one of the six pieces of God's armor mentioned in Ephesians 6:10-18, The Voice,

*“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, **take up the shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”*

Here in Timothy, Paul adds our conscience as a weapon we can use to keep our faith pure.

****Have you ever thought of your conscience as a weapon? If so, write out those thoughts.*

I believe this helps us to piece together the verses about our conscience we have read up to this point. Our conscience is powerful. Remember seeing the link, the relationship, between the Holy Spirit and our conscience? We looked at the fullness of the operation of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Now we see the conscience as a weapon to do battle. God's provision for us is complete.

****Journal what you are learning about your own conscience.*