## Introduction

- 1. In keeping with the theme of "Clear Christianity" another definition that caught my attention was "free from guile" used in one sense as "a *clear* conscience."
  - a. The English word "guile" is found eleven times in eleven verses in the KJV Bible.
  - b. Is guile really a problem in the world and something that we must be aware of and get rid of if found in our lives? Yes!
- 2. To be clear in our Christianity, we too must get rid of any guile that is in our lives.
  - a. Guile must be put away (1 Pt. 2:1).

## I. Jesus Christ - Our Example

- 1. Jesus Christ had no guile.
  - a. Isaiah prophesied this about Christ over 700 years before He came to Earth (<u>Isa. 53:9</u>).
  - b. Peter confirmed it in the First Century (1 Pt. 2:21-22).
- 2. Guile defined.
  - a. In the Greek language the word is dolos (G1388 noun).
  - b. "properly bait...a lure, snare; hence craft, deceit, guile" (Thayer 155).
  - c. "taking advantage through craft and underhanded methods, deceit, cunning, treachery" (BDAG 256).
  - d. "to deceive by using trickery and falsehood—'to deceive, to trick into, treachery'" (Louw-Nida 758).
- 3. Jesus always spoke the truth.
  - a. This makes sense as He is full of truth (Jn. 1:14).
  - b. Jesus spoke what He heard from the Father (Jn. 8:31-47).
  - c. Jesus is the Truth (Jn. 14:6).
  - d. Jesus connected truth with God's Word (Jn. 17:17).
  - e. If I am of the truth I will listen to Jesus (Jn. 18:37-38).

## II. Without Guile - A Necessity and a Reality

1. Nathanael, though not a Christian at this time, was found without guile by Jesus Christ (Jn. 1:43-51).

- a. Nathanael had the glowing character of having nothing false in him.
- 2. Guile must be put away (1 Pt. 2:1).
  - a. Peter expanded upon this in 1 Peter 3:10-12.
  - b. Guile defiles the person (Mk. 7:18-23).
- 3. Loving life and seeing good days (1 Pt. 3:10-12).
  - a. If I love life and wish to see good days I must make sure I remove guile from my speech (1 Pt. 3:10).
  - b. Evil must be turned away from and stopped and good must be practiced (1 Pt. 3:11).
  - c. Prayer must be employed and often (<u>1 Pt. 3:12</u>; cf. <u>1 Th. 5:17</u>; <u>Rm. 12:12</u>).

## Conclusion

- 1. To be where God is, Heaven, we must be without guile.
  - a. Jesus ascended back to His Father after His work was finished on Earth (Ac. 1:9-11).
  - b. The redeemed from among men were found with no guile in their mouth (Rev. 14:1-5).
- 2. Filling our hearts full of God's Word and carrying it out will see to it that we speak no guile (1 Pt. 2:1-2; Eph. 5:18; Col. 3:16).
  - a. It will take diligence on our part as the world is full of guile.
  - b. We can do it as we look to our Lord and Savior as our example and strength (Php. 4:13).