

Guilt: True and False

2 Corinthians 7:11

by: David E. Prince

True Guilt

For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves,

what indignation,

what fear,

what longing,

what zeal,

what punishment!

At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.

Aggressive pursuit of righteousness and restoration after sin.

Anger over ones own sin and its offense against God.

Reverence before a holy God—the one who is offended.

Desiring restoration with God and man.

Energy and deep concern for God—concern that acts.

Courage and not self-protection, embraces consequences for actions.

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus”
(Rom 8:1).

KEY WORDS:
CLEAR, NO REGRET,
REJOICE, SALVATION

False Guilt

Apathy and sluggishness.
“I cannot do anything right.”

Complacency. “I will never be able to change.”

Abstract coldness. “God is an impersonal judge.”

Loathing and hypersensitivity. “I hate myself and others are putting me down.”

Emotional paralysis. “Why do anything? I will just mess it up.”

Indulgence. “I have to focus on myself because I deserve more than I am getting.”

Condemnation. “The accuser of our brothers ... who accuses them day and night before our God”
(Rev 12:10).

KEY WORDS:
CONDEMNED, REGRET,
FEAR, DEATH