

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

Matthew 5:8 - “Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.”

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

- “A pure heart faces the worst kind of evil in this world. But as it sleeps, it is blessed, and it wakes up cleansed and a little bit stronger” (Gregor Collins)
- “A pure heart is the vessel that contains a soul's true beauty. The best part of beauty is the part that cannot be seen in a picture, but is hidden within the pure heart” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*).

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

- “When people attempt to live a double life spiritually, that is, to appear pure on the outside but are not pure in the heart, they are anything but blessed. Their conflicting loyalties make them wretched, confused, and tense. And having to keep their eyes on two masters at once makes them cross-eyed, and their vision is so blurred that neither image is clear.” (Clarence Jordan, Sermon on the Mount).

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

- “The pure in heart are blessed because they will see God. Although this will not be ultimately true until the Judgment, yet it is also true even now. Our perception of God and His ways, as well as our fellowship with Him, depends on our purity of heart. The ‘visio Dei’ -- what an incentive to purity!” (D. A. Carson, The Sermon on the Mount).

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

- Psalm 24:3-5 - “Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. 5 He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.”

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

- Why are the pure in heart blessed and happy?
  - They are sincere, simple, and serene
  - Their lives are clean
  - They have a great promise
- Each Beatitude has a particular form:
  - A declaration of blessing
  - A description of attitude
  - A disposition of blessing

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

- Heart - kardia - “The heart; figuratively the thoughts or feelings of the mind” (Strong’s). It is a compilation of our intellect, emotions, will, and conscience.
- Pure - katharos - “Literally or figuratively clean, clear, pure” (Strong’s). It is unspoiled, without impurity, elemental, and uniform in composition.
- A pure heart is:
  - An intellect trained by truth
  - Emotions tempered by sobriety
  - A will traversing a straight path
  - A conscience tightly tied to morality

# Who Are the Pure in Heart?

- Prov. 20:9 - “Who can say, ‘I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin’?”
- Solomon asks a profound question; it begs a greater question: how does one have and hold a pure heart?

# The Pure In Heart Are Sincere, Simple, And Serene

- They are sincere
  - Titus 2:7-8 - “In all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, 8 sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.”
  - 2Cor. 1:12 - “For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you.”
  - 2Cor. 2:17 - “For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ”

# The Pure In Heart Are Sincere, Simple, And Serene

- They are simple (uncomplicated, not stupid)
  - 2Cor. 11:3 - “But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”
- Truth is simple
  - Matt. 11:25 - “Jesus answered and said, I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.”
- Error is complex
  - Titus 1:15 - “To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.”

# The Pure In Heart Are Sincere, Simple, And Serene

- They are serene
  - Phil. 4:7-9 - “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things. 9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”

# The Pure In Heart Live Clean Lives

- Purity of life follows purity of heart
  - Prov. 4:23 - “Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.”
  - Rom. 6:17-18 - “Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.”

# The Pure In Heart Live Clean Lives

- We must purify our hearts before we can purify our lives
  - John 17:17 - “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”
  - Acts 15:8-9 - “So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us, 9 and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.”

# The Pure In Heart Live Clean Lives

- We must purify our hearts before we can purify our lives
  - 1Peter 1:22 - “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart”
  - Gal. 2:20 - “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

# The Pure In Heart Live Clean Lives

- What happens if our hearts are not pure, but we act as if they are?
- We are Pharisees
  - Matt. 23:25-28 - “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. 26 Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. 27 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. 28 Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.”

# The Pure In Heart Live Clean Lives

- What happens if our hearts are not pure?
- We become corrupt
  - 2Tim. 3:8 - “Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith”
  - Jude 10 - “But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.”
- A clean life is a life of true happiness.

# The Pure In Heart Will See God

- God Himself is pure
  - 1Peter 1:15-16 - “But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, Be holy, for I am holy.”
  - Psalm 18:26 - “With the pure You will show Yourself pure; And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd.”

# The Pure In Heart Will See God

- The pure in heart want to see God
  - Psalm 51:10-11 - “Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me”
  - Psalm 24:3-6 - “Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. 5 He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation. 6 This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face.”

# The Pure In Heart Will See God

- This promise is highly motivating
  - Heb. 12:14 - “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord”
  - 1John 3:2-3 - “Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure”
- How happy will be the day when the pure of heart see God!

# The Pure In Heart Will See God

- Psalm 73:1, 25-26, 28 - “Truly God is good to Israel, To such as are pure in heart... 25 Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. 26 My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. ... 28 it is good for me to draw near to God”
- The pure in heart become so and remain so by drawing near to God in this world; and thus, see God in the world to come.