

# A Pure Heart

**TEXT:** 1 John 3:1-3; Matt. 5:8

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. PURITY IS IMPORTANT IN PREPARING TO MEET JESUS.
  - 1. **Matt. 5:8.** The beatitude – The pure in heart shall see God.
  - 2. Involves fellowship – not just eye-balling.
- B. DEVOTION TO GOD MUST BE PURE (**2 Cor. 11:2-3**). As God directs (**vs. 4**).
- C. PURITY OF LIFE IS ESSENTIAL (**1 Tim. 5:22; 2 Cor. 7:1**).
- D. AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT THAT NEEDS STUDY.

## I. DEFINITIONS:

- A. **1 John 3:3** – PURE - *hagnos*, a. pure from carnality, chaste, modest; b. pure from every fault, immaculate: (Thayer).
- B. **Matt. 5:8** – PURE – *katharos*, 1. to make clean, to cleanse; ... b. in a moral sense; to free from the defilement of sin and from faults; to purify from wickedness: **2 Cor 7:1**; to free from the guilt of sin, to purify: **1 John 1:7** (Thayer).

## II. PURITY OF LIFE DERIVES FROM PURITY OF MIND

- A. DEEDS REFLECT OUR HEART'S CONDITION (**Prov. 23:7; Matt. 12:35**).
  - 1. We are to love God with all our heart, soul, strength and mind (**Luke 10:27**).
  - 2. Our love should be genuine (**Rom. 12:9**).
- B. WE ARE CALLED TO A CHANGED MIND (**Rom. 12:2**)
- C. AND A NEW PERSPECTIVE (**Col. 3:1-2**).
- D. IMPURITY COMES FROM AN EVIL HEART (**Gen. 6:5; Heb. 3:12; Matt. 12:34-35**).

## III. 3 ELEMENTS ARE INVOLVED IN A PURE HEART.

- A. CLEAN THINKING.
  - 1. Man forgets God when he exalts himself (**Rom. 1:22-24, 28-32; Eph. 4:17-19**).
  - 2. Leads to degrading bestial behavior (**2 Pet. 2:12; Jude 10**).
  - 3. Sheep scattered and distressed – without a shepherd (**Matt. 9:36**).
  - 4. We don't have to grope in the darkness (**John 8:12; 6:63**).
  - 5. What we feed on effects us (**Phil. 4:8; Psa. 1:1-3**).
- B. SINCERE MOTIVES.
  - 1. The problems of the Pharisees.
    - a. They sought the favor of men (**Matt. 6:1 ff.; Gal. 1:10**).
    - b. Their treasures were laid up on the earth (**Matt. 6:19-24, 33; 2 Cor. 4:16-18**).
  - 2. Others (**Jas. 4:3; 3 John 9 - 2 Pet. 2:18-19; 1 Tim. 4:6**).
  - 3. God desires a true heart (**Heb. 10:22; Josh. 24:14; 2 Cor. 1:12**)
  - 4. A true heart proves itself (**Phil. 2:22; 1 Pet. 1:6-7**).
- C. SINGLE-MINDED COMMITMENT.
  - 1. The teaching of Jesus (**Matt. 6:24**). Serving a master.
  - 2. Paul's attitude.
    - a. Gave up everything (**Phil. 3:7-8**).
    - b. Eye on the goal (**Col. 3:1-2**).
    - c. Crucified with Christ (**Gal. 2:20; Acts 20:24; 2 Cor. 4:7-12, 13-14**).
    - d. A commitment borne of faith (**2 Cor. 5:1, 7; 2 Tim. 1:12**).
    - e. Total – all things – commitment (**1 Cor. 9:23**).
  - 3. Where is your heart? Is it where Jesus can guard it?

**CONCLUSION:**

- A. PURITY OF LIFE IS DEPENDENT ON A PURE HEART.
- B. OCCASIONALLY THE HEART MUST BE RENEWED.
- C. RENEWAL OCCURS THROUGH BIBLE STUDY AND APPLICATION.
- D. HAVE YOU DONE WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO DO?