

## Blessed are the Pure in Heart

Purity of heart is still possible! Purity of heart is available and full of reward even though our neighbors, TV, movies, magazines, radio and the internet flaunt nakedness and vulgar language.

Jesus says, “*Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.*” (Matt. 5:8) In the same sermon Jesus condemns sins of the heart (murder, adultery, lying). Jesus says that citizens of His kingdom have pure hearts. Then amazingly, with pure hearts, we see God, because God is found in that which is pure!

It’s discouraging when Christians give up the battle on having a pure heart; becoming calloused to every degree of impurity. This is serious because it keeps us from seeing God!

Beware of those who say it doesn’t matter what you look upon or what you think about. 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 2:13-14 says such are deceivers of others and they are deceived themselves. “*They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they fest with you, having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children.*”

We need a game plan to repel the darkness and corruption which can pollute our hearts?

Seek God. All through our waking moments we must seek God. Psalm 119:147-148 says, “*I rise before the dawning of the morning, and cry for help; I hope in Your word. My eyes are awake through the night watches, that I may meditate on your word.*” The pure in heart are not just looking for the commandments of the Lord, they are looking for Him! Upon rising out of bed we should look for God in prayer. We should look for him His Word and His righteousness. We need to direct our children’s hearts to God. In our purity and nearness to Him we shall see Him!

Be repulsed by lasciviousness and corrupt language. Instead of being calloused to these things which offend the holiness of God and His

people, we should feel violated at their occasion. We must “*Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.*” (Rom. 12:9), and “*have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them*” (Eph. 5:11). Most of the time we can turn it off, look the other way, or ignore it. We have control over our hearts.

Pray, “*do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one*” (Matt. 6:13). Jesus included this in the same sermon in which he said, “*Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.*” God helps us keep our hearts pure.

Inform others. They likely do not understand our reason for wanting pure thoughts. Let them know it’s about seeing God!

Let all of us have a pure heart so we can see God!

*Carl Lungstrum*