



“If you continue in My word,

then are you My **Disciples InDeed...**”

The Blessedness of Purity

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

Jesus seems to be referring here to Psalm 24:3,4: “Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart.”

If we want to see God we must have a pure heart. It’s that simple. In Hebrews 12:14 we are similarly told that “without holiness no man shall see the Lord”.

So how do we get a pure heart? In Acts 15:9 Peter declared that God purified the hearts of the household of Cornelius by faith. As they listened to the Gospel, faith rose in their hearts and while Peter was still speaking they all put their trust in Christ and received the new birth/new heart from God. Ezekiel prophesied about this hundreds of years before when he wrote: “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.” See also John 3:3

How do you think the first five beatitudes are related to this one? _____

Is there a progression in the beatitudes, or is the order not significant? _____

James also refers back to Psalm 24:3,4 when he writes in James 4:8, “Cleanse your hands ye sinners, and purify your hearts, ye double minded.” James is writing to Christians but he tells us to purify our hearts. Earlier in the chapter he says we are like adulterers and adulteresses if we are the friends of this world.

How is it like adultery if we want the friendship of the world? _____

What does being “double minded” have to do with purifying our hearts? _____

In the Bible the terms for purity, holiness, and sanctification are very similar. In the Old Testament something became “holy” and “sanctified” when it was given to the Lord as an offering. How does Romans 12:1,2 relate to this for the Christian in the new covenant? _____

How does being a living sacrifice increase our ability to see God? _____

1 John 3:1-3 talks about hope that causes us to strive for purity of heart. What is it? _____

How Pure in Heart Are You?

1. Have you received the new birth/new heart from God through faith in Christ?
2. Is following Christ the passion of your life or are other things like money, lust, or self competing for your affection?
3. Do you want to see God or is that not appealing to you?
4. Is the glory of God what motivates your actions or are other things mixed in?

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Doers of the Word

Is there anything you need to have purified in your life or are you ready to stand before God’s throne today?

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Further Study: 1Jn 3:1-3, Jn 3, Heb 12, Jas 4:4-10

“...And you shall know The Truth,

and The Truth shall **make you Free!**”

