

Podcast Episode Notes

S9 Ep 7 Can Our Hearts Be Pure?

Jesus says the pure in heart will see God, but purity seems like a very high bar. We know God sees into our hearts because it reflects the “real me” and the “real you.”

Scripture References

Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God – Matthew 5:8

Psalms 1:1-3

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.”

Psalms 24:3-6

“Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek him...”

Psalms 51:10-12

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation...”

1 Samuel 16:7

“But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

A pure heart is one that has no debris, that doesn't walk in the path of wickedness. People like this are free from falsehood – not playing games, manipulating, etc. Pure in heart does not refer to the eradication of sin, or sinless perfection. Rather it speaks to an undivided heart; a heart of sincerity that is free from bitterness/stain/shame.

What is in your heart is the “real you”!

- 1) “As water reflects a man's face, so the heart reflects the man” (Prov. 27:19)
- 2) “Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks” (Matt. 12:34)
- 3) “Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander...” (Mat. 15:17-20)
- 4) “Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life” (Prov. 4:23)

This does not refer to the heart being purified as we first come to faith, but rather a description of one who has developed the graces of what we have previously seen in this sermon:

- 1) Recognizing being poor in spirit, to
- 2) Mourning our sin, to

- 3) Being formed around meekness, to
- 4) Having a healthy appetite towards God and spiritual matters, to
- 5) Being merciful to others because we have experienced God's mercy, to
- 6) *This leads to a dependence on the Holy Spirit to walk in purity of heart which is expressed in discipline, focus and devotion to honor and glorify God!*

They shall "see God"!

- 1) In the end, yes, seeing God one day coming back for us, and in Heaven...
- 2) Seeing God is seeing a measure of His glory expressed here on earth – His transformation of people; His working to meet the needs of people; His getting the Gospel to where it has never been; it is God speaking to you; guiding you; providing for you; protecting you – and others! It is us seeing, or experiencing, God moving on our behalf!
- 3) In other words, God is so real to us that it is the same as seeing Him!

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