

UPSIDE DOWN: The Beatitudes

Lesson Seven • Matthew 5:8

The Reward of Purity

The Tragedy of Cultural Purity

Our culture is consumed with PURITY except in the one area that matters most, the HEART.

Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart. 1Samuel 16:7 NIV

...for the LORD searches every heart and understands every desire and every thought. 1Chronicles 28:9 NIV

The Sixth Beatitude

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

The Reward of Purity

1. The Pronouncement: Blessed Are the PURE IN HEART!

What Is the Heart?

The heart is the COMMAND CENTER of one’s life.

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. Proverbs 4:23 NIV

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? Jeremiah 17:9 NKJV

The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Genesis 6:5 ESV

“For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.” Matthew 15:19 NIV

I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the LORD. They will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with all their heart. Jeremiah 24:7 NIV

What Is a Pure Heart?

- Purity of heart involves personal LOYALTY.

As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind... 1Chronicles 28:9 NKJV

I will give them singleness of heart and action, so that they will always fear Me and that all will then go well for them and for their children after them. Jeremiah 32:39 NIV

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. Ezekiel 36:25 NIV

Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in His holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god. Psalm 24:3-4 NIV

- Purity of heart involves relational HONESTY.

*“These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me.”
Matthew 15:8 NIV*

*“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.”
Matthew 23:27-28 NIV*

- Purity of heart involves spiritual FERVENCY.

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14 NIV

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to Your word. Psalm 119:9 NIV

2. The Promise: For They Shall SEE GOD!

The Reward of Purity

We will see God NOW and ultimately in ETERNITY.

Then Moses said, “Now show me Your glory.” ... “But,” He said, “you cannot see My face, for no one may see Me and live.” Exodus 33:18, 20 NIV

They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. Revelation 22:4 NKJV

How’s Your Vision of God?

Do you have a heart that is capable of seeing God?