

The Forgotten Jesus Podcast

S7E13

Blessed Are The Pure In Heart - Matthew 5:8

Description – Continuing to look at the Beatitudes, we examine purity of heart from Matthew 5:8

“Blessed are pure in heart, for they will see God” - Matthew 5:8
What does it mean to see God?

Matthew 5:1-8

Blessed = Human Flourishing, Dr. Pennington

Sermon on the Mount is an Invitation and a challenge.

What does purity mean?

Unmixed motives or something without impurity. What does Jesus expect you to do for a pure heart, or how do you know your heart is pure?

Get to a place of being pure in heart.

Awareness of sin

Understand and identify the wickedness of our own hearts. Most people typically struggle with 1-3 primary struggles/sins. The enemy has won. I don't know what that sin list is.

The only way to become aware is in comparison to something perfect, holy. The Bible and biblical preaching help expose those sins. You can determine if something is impure by comparing it to something pure. The challenge is not to compare my sins with other people's sins but to compare my sins with a perfect God.

Psalms 51:1-13 - David's desire for a clean heart.

Mikvah - The Jewish culture was big on ceremonial cleansing, a physical action with spiritual implications.

Going into the Mikvah, they would be thinking four things.

1. Head - Things I meditate and think on.
2. Hands - My work and things do.
3. Heart - Cleanse my affection and desires.
4. Feet - Things I participate in and where I go.

Purity comes from refinement, and God refines us through pain, suffering, and the removal of things.

The chief way God cleanses us - Applying the blood of Jesus Christ to us and our sins

Psalm 51:7

How does blood cleanse? There is a penalty to be paid for sin (life is in the blood)

You can tell a lot about someone from their blood. **Everything is in the blood, and we have Jesus' blood covering us.**

No one can see the face of God. Moses and Elijah did not see the face of God but the form of God.

Before Jesus, people had to have mediators between them and God.
Gentiles had six sections removed from the presence of God.

Exodus 12:21-22

The hyssop branch was used to brush the blood on the doorpost.
Hyssop was connected with cleansing in Jewish culture.

The brushing of the hyssop on the doorpost represents the cross.

When the Bible mentions something specific, like a type of tree, take note.

John 19:28-29

They gave Jesus the sponge on the hyssop branch.

The hyssop is a sign of Jesus taking on the sin of the world and cleansing us.

The sacrificial system shows us that the cost of sin is death. Because of death, we have life.

That is the only way we can be pure in heart.

Jesus said to the disciples when he took the 4th cup (cup of celebration), he wouldn't drink it until he comes into His kingdom.

When does the Kingdom of Heaven start?

Matthew 28:18 - All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.

Don't judge your insides by other people's outsides.

Practical Steps

Matthew 6:1

How do I determine if I have a pure heart?

Not actions but the motivation of your heart. When you practice your righteous acts in front of others.

1. Giving
2. Prayer
3. Fasting

We are not saved by good works, but they are an outflow of our relationship with Jesus.

Are you working for yourself or working for the Lord?

Consolations and Desolations

Ignatius of Loyola

The reason you don't understand the purity of your heart is that you don't spend a lot of time with Jesus and His Word to examine your heart.

Practice

5 minutes of being still with God. (settle your heart) So the Holy Spirit is your counselor.

Psalm 46:10 - Be Still

Consolations = Lord, I want you to reveal in my life things that open me up to you. Where did I see you work? Where was I filled with the fruit of the Spirit? Where was I obedient to what you asked me to do?

Desolations = Things that close off or grieve the Spirit. Ways in which you don't experience the Kingdom of God.

The only way you will fully understand your own sin is when the Holy Spirit.

Blaise Pascal said, "All of humanity's problems stem from man's inability to sit quietly in a room alone."

Daily Inventory from Celebrate Recovery 12 Steps

Closing Promise - You will see (experience God)

Evelyn Underhill (Mentor of Dallas Willard)

"It's not that God cared for or attended to the mystics more than others; it's that they cared for and attended to God more than the rest."

The reason you have so little of God in your life is that you have not cared for more of God in your life.