

RADICAL LIVING
The Beatitudes and us
Lesson 6
Matthew 5:1-10

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

1. Let's talk about purity

Pure – *katharos*- (from which we get the word catharsis). The basic meaning of *katharos* is having been made pure by cleansing from dirt, filth, and contamination.

Catharsis is a term used in psychology and counseling for a cleansing of the mind and/or the emotions.

A. Understanding Jesus' usage of the term.

1.) When Jesus spoke of the pure in heart, He spoke of those who love God with all their hearts.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Psalms 119:2

2.) When Jesus spoke of the pure in heart, He spoke of those with an undivided loyalty, and whose inward nature corresponds with their outward profession.

a.) The negative:

Isaiah 29:13

b.) The positive:

John 6:66-69

Psalms 24:6

B. A helpful way to understand Jesus' concept of the pure in heart.

Deuteronomy 14:2

James 4:8

Hebrews 12:14

Purity does not denote *perfection* but rather the *pursuit* of God as one's first and foremost goal.

2. Let's talk about the heart

A. The word of God emphasizes a good heart in order to be acceptable before God

Romans 1:21-22

Psalms 51:6, 10

B. Our hearts need to be protected

Proverbs 4:23

Matthew 12:34

C. It's about more than outward appearance

Matthew 23:23-28

D. A true relationship with God starts with the heart.

2 Timothy 3:7

Joel 2:12-13

3. What is a pure heart?

A pure heart...or the pure in heart are those who have cleansed themselves of:

- 1 That which is not like God
 - 2 That which is not pleasing to God
 - 3 That which prevents them from drawing close to God.
- Matthew 18:35

4. How the pure in heart see God

A. What Jesus did not mean.

Revelation 1:7

Revelation 20:11-15

B. What Jesus did mean

1 Corinthians 2:7-10

John 12:35-40

The pure at heart recognize the hand and work of God ***everywhere***.

They see the arm of the Lord revealed in power

They see the arm of the Lord revealed in provision

They see the arm of the Lord revealed in protection