

The Gospel of Matthew #31

Sermon on the Mount: How to Be Happy

#6: HAPPY ARE THE PURE IN HEART

Matthew 5:8

How excited do you get about seeing God?

What do you think of when you think of “pure in heart”?

That may be a clue to your besetting sin.

I. What does “pure in heart” mean?

See by what in our hearts makes us impure:

Matthew 15:18-20:

- Evil thoughts: wicked schemes to get my own way, whatever
- Murder: the extremes I will go to if I can get away with it
- Adultery: in action and heart, thoughts (cf. Mt 5:27-8)
- Sexual immorality: of all kinds, according to the imaginations of my heart
- Theft: coveting and acting on what I can get away with
- False testimony: twist the truth to my own ends
- Slander: criticizing someone behind their back because I am jealous or feel inferior

II. What does this have to do with “seeing God”?

Psalm 24:3-4 only the pure in heart can _____ God

Proverbs 20:9 but who can say “I have kept my heart pure?”

_____.

Even David, the man after God’s heart, had to pray Psalm 51:10 after adultery and murder!

III. Purified by the Pure One

Hebrews 7:23-27 (particularly v26) Jesus alone was holy, blameless, and pure of heart

He died to _____ for Himself a people (Titus 3:14)

But **we** also _____ for the holiness (purity) without which no one will see the Lord (Heb 12:14)

IV. So what does the promise mean and how are they connected?

Purity of heart → see God

A. The promise of H_____

What makes heaven Heaven is seeing God!

Rev 22:1-4 see His Face; His Name on my forehead
Satisfaction of every delight

John 17:24 Jesus' prayer
Behold His transfixing Glory

B. The promise for H_____ & Now

Not simply promises for the future. We have the down payment from the Spirit **now**

All the beatitudes are about both current and future experiences:

Our pure heart is not only given to us. We are to live out of it by disciplined repentance & faith that enables us to see God more and more clearly **now**

The more we fix our hearts on Him, the more we see Him (James 4:8)

As I set my heart on seeing Him, I delight more in His beauty (Psalm 27:4) and comfort (27:5-12) and goodness (27:13-14)

Forsaking sin removes the veil that hides Him from you. What is keeping you from seeing Jesus more clearly?

Bring it to Him now.