

A DIFFERENT KIND OF LIFE

The Promise of Purity

TEXT: Mt. 5:8

INTRODUCTION: **The Bible speaks of five types of purity:**

**Original – Can't have
Created – Don't have
Positional – In Christ
Practical – Daily Life
Ultimate – Saints will have**

What is promised to those who are made pure in Christ?

Mt. 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

They shall see God. But what does it mean?

I. WHAT IS THE PROMISE TO THOSE WHO ARE POSITIONALLY PURE, TO THOSE WHO ARE IN CHRIST?

A. It does not mean physical sight nor even heavenly visions.

Remember Moses wanted to see God – great spiritual hunger and thirst. But God knows that seeing Him in all His glory would destroy Moses. So He put Moses in the cleft of a rock and showed only His back.

God is spirit. You will not see the Father physically just because you are in Christ.

B. But you will see God in a way that those who are not in Christ do not see Him. This is true because of your personal relationship with Christ.

John 14:8-9 ⁸ Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

You see God through Jesus, and you know Jesus.

1. By personal relationship
2. By the illumination of Scripture

1 Cor. 2:13-16 ¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. ¹⁶ For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

You not only have the information of Scripture available, but you have discernment of God's truth as the Holy Spirit illumines Scripture to you.

You see Jesus differently than the lost man.
 You see God like lost people do not see Him.
 You see more clearly His

Power
Holiness
Righteousness
Love
Mercy
Faithfulness
Friendship

- C. You are given power for practical purity.
 "Born again, anew, from above."
 "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation."
- D. You are promised ultimate purity.

1 Peter 1:3-4 ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

1 Cor. 15:42-44 ⁴² So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. *The body* is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

Rev. 21:5-8 ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." ⁶ And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷ He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸ But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral,

sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Rev. 21: 22-27 ²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. ²⁴ And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵ Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶ And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷ But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

But what about David, was he not an adulterer? Yes, but he has been cleansed by grace through faith.

But what about Paul, was he not a murderer? Yes, but he has been cleansed by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ who bore our sins upon the cross.

And what about me? My friend, I could never enter into the eternal city except that I trusted Christ and His shed blood upon the cross and He forgave me my sin and cleansed me from all unrighteousness. He made me pure in Christ.

And what about you. Listen, in and of ourselves, we are all filthy sinners. Our righteousness is as filthy rags before a holy God. But no matter who you are or what you have done, you can be made pure in Christ, and ultimately, eternally, you will have the fullness of His purity.

We will talk later of the promise for ultimate purity. Ultimate purity is the result of positional purity.

What we must see is that the purity that Christ gives us when we are in Him is the beginning place. It is impossible to bypass or work to it.

II. WHAT IS THE PROMISE FOR THOSE WHO PRACTICE PURITY?

Practical purity

Not just trying to live right

Living out what we are positionally in Christ

There will always be a conflict here, for while we are given a new heart and are cleansed (Ez. 36), we are left with the same old flesh. While we are given a new nature, we have to contend with the old one.

Paul (Romans 7)

Deal with importance of confession.

Radio preacher – no need to confess sin or ask forgiveness –1 John 1:9 Lord's Prayer, "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

But practical purity is living out in this life who we are in Christ. It is having victory over sin. Living a cleansed and spirit-filled life.

What is the promise to those who are pure in a daily, practical way?
They shall see God. How?

A. A more effective prayer life.

"The prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

James 5:16 Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Ps. 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.

Sin hinders prayers: 1 Pet. 3:7 (husbands who are inconsiderate and dishonor wives have prayers hindered.) When your child is disobedient, he is still yours but communication is hindered.

B. A closer, daily walk with the Lord.

1 John 1: 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

Saved? But want a closer walk? Need a more daily experience with the Lord?
You need a practical purity in your life.

C. Better fellowship with fellow Christians.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

When your life is at odds with God it is often at odds with someone else.

Are you often angry, irritated? Do you complain a lot? You need a renewed dose of practical purity! And if what I said made you made, you need it really badly, because practical purity will give you ...

D. A greater joy

1 John 1:3-4 ³ that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

That's what I need. How do I do it?
Tonight, I'm going to begin teaching you that.

And if you will, these things will be yours.

III. WHAT IS THE PROMISE FOR ULTIMATE PURITY?

Back to 1 Cor. 15: 42-56

1. I have already begun talking about this already when I spoke about the Resurrection, incorruptible bodies we who have trusted in Christ shall receive.
2. When we die, we who are in Christ go to Paradise, to the third Heaven

People in heave are the folks John saw and are described in Rev. 7:9-10 ⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Listen to the promise in Rev. 7:15-17 ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

3. Kingship and Judgeship with Christ during the millennium
4. Life forever on New Earth and in the New Jerusalem

Rev. 21:10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

Rev. 22:1-5 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. ³ And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the

Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

CONCLUSION:

Rev. 22:14 Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

Mt. 5:8 Blessed *are* the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

They alone shall see God.