

**Blessed are the Pure in Heart**  
*The Gospel of Matthew, Part 18*  
Matthew 5:8  
Sermon Outline

- |                              |   |                                  |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| (1) Poor in Spirit           | → | (5) Merciful                     |
| (2) Mourning                 | → | (6) Pure in heart                |
| (3) Meek                     | → | (7) Peacemakers                  |
| (4) Hungry for Righteousness | → | (8) Persecuted for righteousness |

**I. The Diagnosis: Who has a Pure Heart?**

- A. The Condition is Deep. (Jer. 17:9)
- B. The Condition is Universal. (Prov. 20:9)
- C. The Condition is Life-Altering. (Mt. 15:19)
- D. The Condition is Life-Threatening. (Heb. 4:12-13)

**II. The Treatment: How do we get a Pure Heart?**

- A. The Treatment is God-Provided. (Ps. 51:10)
- B. The Treatment is Self-Administered. (Ja. 4:8)
- C. The Treatment is Painful. (Ps. 139:23-24)
- D. The Treatment is Life-Long. (Prov. 4:23)

**III. The Prognosis: Why would we want a Pure Heart?**

- A. The Pure in Heart will see God one day face to face.
- B. The Pure in Heart see God now through the eyes of faith.

*Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. – I John 3:2-3*

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Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. What's the relationship between the beatitudes? Why are they one unit? How do the first four correspond to the second four?
2. "God looks at the heart." Is this a comforting reality or a disturbing reality? Why?
3. When you think of your heart, what do you think of? What is the Biblical understanding of the heart? How is this understanding similar to our physical hearts?
4. Look at Matthew 15:19. What comes out of our hearts?
5. What is wrong with us? Why is our condition deep? Why is it universal? Why is it life altering? Why is it life threatening? (Take some time to examine some of the verses under the "Diagnosis" section.)
6. What is God's part in the treatment of our hearts? What is our part? Why is heart treatment painful? What does treatment involve? Why is treatment "life-long"? Do we ever totally become pure in heart? (Examine "Treatment" passages.)
7. What does I John 3:1-3 have to say about the relationship between our hope and our purity? Why would we want to purify ourselves now? What will be one day?
8. How do the "pure in heart" see God now. . . in creation, in circumstances, in trials? What difference does walking closely with God make in your life? How does a dirty, impure, unrepentant heart affect your perspective and cause you to not see God in your life. How does unrepentance feed doubt?