

Love and Purity

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Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

- I. Purity is the absence of defilement, pollution, and corruption.
 - A. We start out in this life pure and undefiled.
 - 1. In body, mind, spirit, and soul.
 - B. We lose our purity when pollution is introduced into our mind, heart, and life.
 - 1. It is impossible to avoid this in a world that is filled with uncleanness and sin.
 - 2. But it is possible to have a pure heart and mind through the new birth, the Word of God, and the Spirit of God living in you.

"True peace is a gift of God and today it is found only in the minds of innocent children and in the hearts of trustful Christian believers." - Tozer

- C. The addition of the knowledge of unclean things produces unclean thoughts.
 - 1. This is what happened when Eve ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
 - 2. She knew good, but she did not know evil until she took it into herself and then she was defiled in mind and heart, but there must be a body to manifest the uncleanness through, so it is defiled also.
- D. Seeing, hearing, knowing, and experiencing unclean things degrades, degenerates, and lowers our power of reason and common sense.
- E. How many people can really look at others with pure thoughts, when all they see all day is uncleanness, nakedness, and filth?
- F. But it does more than that; it influences and pollutes even our good thoughts.

Titus 1:15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

- G. Once we know and experience the unclean we have a problem considering anything or anyone else clean again.

1 Timothy 5:2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

- 1. How well is this commandment followed in the churches now?
 - 2. When the young women dress like harlots and the men are bombarded with what they call "soft pornography" everywhere they look, there are no pure thoughts, even in the churches, in both the sexes.
- H. Consider the small children and all the terrible, filthy things, words, and images they have never had put into their minds yet.
 - 1. Consider how they look at other people without all that in their minds and not influencing their thoughts toward others.
- I. To maintain purity is to keep our mind clean from the pollution all around us.
- J. Therefore, the more that we allow of this unclean world to enter into our mind and thoughts, and the affections of our hearts, the less we are going to value everything and everyone else.
- K. At the beginning of the defilement people value their sin and the things they are coveting, but after a while even their love for that fades and life has no meaning for them anymore.

L. Impurity affects our ability to truly love anyone or anything.

Matthew 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

M. This explains the lack of natural affection that we see in our world today.

N. This explains the lack of commitment to anything except what is unclean and evil.

O. This explains the apathy among those who are called the people of God toward the work of God, as well as the things that are an offense to God, such as impurity, filthiness, and immorality.

P. The filthiness is going to destroy everything for those who will not put a stop to it in their life.

II. Our understanding is affected by our impure mind, heart, and life.

James 3:17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

A. Any wisdom from God begins from purity, so understanding truth and righteousness through the lens of uncleanness, corruption, and filthiness is not possible.

B. Impurity does not make us wiser, but more foolish, not smarter, but dumber.

C. The devil's promise to Eve was that her eyes would be opened; enlightenment, but it is blindness that results from iniquity and defilement with anything that is unclean.

D. This is what I am seeing in everyone as they post profanity on social media without even noticing it anymore. (watch those acronyms)

E. This is plenty of incentive to turn away from the evil and the polluted to the pure and holy.

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

F. This is why only those who have been truly born again and are led by the Spirit of God can truly love anyone or be truly committed to anything that is right and holy.

Psalms 119:1 ALEPH. Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.

G. This is why only the undefiled in the way value life and things that truly matter.

H. Partaking of the knowledge of evil is the way of destruction.

I. If we hope to finish our course as a Christian we must draw a line and separate ourselves from the stream of sewer that is neck deep in this world around us.

J. We must gird up the loins of our minds and turn away from the things that are constantly bombarding our minds with filth and uncleanness; morally, verbally, physically, mentally, and spiritually.

2 Corinthians 6:17-18 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

K. We need to be as particular about what we take in through our eyes and ears as we are about what we take into our mouth.

L. If the pollution coming in through our eye-gate and ear-gate only smelled foul and nasty like physically unclean things do, we would certainly put the brakes on.

M. But that is part of the deceitfulness of sin, and we must step up to a higher way of living and walk after the Spirit in order to discern the difference.

N. Purity is a matter of life and death, both physically and spiritually, so please take this warning tonight and set up some perimeters for yourself and your children.