



Blessed are the Pure in Heart *Matthew 5:8*

January 1, 2023
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Matthew 5 is one of the longest teachings of Jesus Christ presented to the crowds and recorded from Matthew himself. This passage is known as the Sermon on the Mount. After Jesus calls his disciples, he began *“teaching in synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.”* The name and person of Jesus spread throughout the land. Jesus saw the crowds, but brought his disciples close to hear his teachings. The way we can read this text is that Jesus' words of instruction are given specifically to his faithful followers that result in blessings. If we are also to be disciples of God, perhaps these same instructions of practicing kingdom character can result in blessings for us as well. Each verse starts with the word *“blessed”* and ends with a full result of that particular blessing.

Matthew 5:1-12

“Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. 8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

- The **ATTRIBUTES** of a true, obedient follower of God is **BLESSED**.

Here are key elements in having a pure heart:

1. Get a NEW HEART.

*“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” **Psalm 51:10***

2. LOVE What God LOVES.

*“How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.”
Psalm 119:9*

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. **3** For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. **5** Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry." **Colossians 3:1-5**

3. CONTROL Yourself.

"Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life"
Proverbs 4:23

4. Be ACCOUNTABLE.

"Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up" **Ecclesiastes 7:9-10**

"Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work." **2 Timothy 2:21**

Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.