

**The Secret to Happiness**  
**“Happiness Through Purity”**  
**Matthew 5:8**  
Pastor John Miller

**Introduction:** This sixth Beatitude is perhaps the best known, and most beloved of all the Beatitudes.

- Why?
  - 1) It tells of man’s deepest longing—a pure heart!
  - 2) It promises the highest possibility—“they shall see God.”

**\* The Beatitude tells us how to get 20/20 spiritual vision.**

- Jesus said in Matthew 6:22-23- “The light of the body is the eye; if therefore thine eye be single...but if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in...”

**\* What is it that delights you?**

- What “delights” you “directs” you.

**\* Happy are the Holy, for they see God and will see God!**

- If life is to be rich and meaningful, then our joys must be the highest possible; Jesus tells us that man’s highest joy is to “see God,” and the only ones that “see God” are the “pure in heart.”

## **I. It is the Heart that is to be Pure**

**\* When Jesus used the words “in heart,” He indicated the kind of purity He was talking about.**

- Illustration- (v. 3) “Blessed are the poor in spirit...”

**\* Jesus is not talking about an outward, ceremonial purity like that of the Scribes and Pharisees.**

- Illustration- Matthew 5:20 and Matthew 23- “Woe unto you...”

**\* Jesus is speaking of an inward purity.**

- Some believe Jesus is quoting or drawing from Psalms 24:3-4- “Who shall ascent into the hill of the LORD? Or who shall stand in His holy place? He that has clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sword deceitfully.”

**\* Psalms 73:1- “Truly (or only) God is good to Israel even to such as are of a clean heart.”**

\* Psalm 51:6- “Behold thou desirest truth in the inward parts; and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.”

\* Jesus is speaking of a depth of purity not found in religious rites or outward ordinances.

\* In the Bible, the “heart” is a term used more than nine hundred times and is almost always used figuratively for the “center of man’s being and personality.” It’s the “mind,” “emotions,” and “will.” It’s the totality of our ability to “think,” “feel,” and “act.”

## II. What Does Jesus Mean by “Pure?”

\* If the “pure in heart” are “blessed,” I need to know what that means!

- It’s not “sinless” or “perfect.”

\* The word “pure” has two basic meanings.

### 1) It means “clean”

- a. Used of soiled clothes washed clean.
- b. Only God can cleanse the human heart!
- c. Psalm 51:7- “Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.”
  - i. (v. 10) “Create in me a clean heart O God...”
- d. When the sinner is born again, they get a clean heart.
  - i. 1 John 1:7- “The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin.”
- e. The word “pure” as Jesus used it in the context has most likely the second meaning.

### 2) The word “pure” meant “unmixed”

- a. It was used of wheat that had been winnowed.
- b. “Wine,” which was unadulterated
- c. “Metal,” which had no alloy
- d. A “pure heart” is a heart that is sincere, or an inner integrity. It has not duplicity or hypocrisy.
- e. The “pure in heart” are free from falsehood in their relations with both God and man.
  - i. Note the progression in the Beatitudes
- f. John Stott- *“Their whole life, public and private is transparent before God and men. Their very heart including their thoughts and motives are pure, unmixed with anything devious, ulterior, or base. Hypocrisy and deceit are abhorrent to them; they are without guile.”*
- g. Illustration- The Sermon on the Mount- Chapter 6
  - i. When you give

- ii. When you pray
  - iii. When you fast
- h. Are you “pure in heart?”
- i. To be “pure in heart,” is to have an undivided love for God.
  - i. Psalms 86:11- “Unite my heart to fear thy name”
  - ii. It should also have unmixed motives in your dealings with men.

### **III. The Promise to the Pure in Heart**

\* (v. 8) “For they shall see God”

\* In what sense do the “pure in heart” “see God?”

- 1) We “see God” now by faith
  - a. When you are born again
  - b. Hebrews 11:27- Moses- “By faith endured as seeing him who is invisible”
- 2) We “see God” more clearly as we suffer and study the Scriptures
  - a. Job 42:5- “I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye seeth thee.”
- 3) We shall “see God” in heaven
  - a. 1 John 3:2- “Beloved now are we the children of God, and it doth not yet...”
  - b. Revelation 22:4- “And they shall see His face”
  - c. We will be perfectly pure

### **CONCLUSION**

\* **Will you go to heaven and “see God?”**

- **Only one way—you must have a “pure heart.”**
- **Only God can give you a “pure heart.”**

\* **What to do?**

- 1) **Admit that your heart is not pure!**
  - a. **“All have sinned...”**
- 2) **Turn from your sin (repent)**
- 3) **Trust Jesus to save you!**
  - a. **He died on the cross**
  - b. **He rose**
  - c. **He lives to save**

