Purity and Pollution

- Exact opposites:
- When all is pure No Pollution
- When there is pollution No Purity
- Purity is absence of pollution. It is still pristine, exactly as it came from the hands of God.
- Bathes the senses in wholesome sensations.
- Generally think of the material creation.
- Material creation a reflection of the spiritual...

Reflection of Spiritual in the Material

- "Satan is like a roaring lion,
- Our tongue is "like a razor,"
- "the poison of asps" is under our lips.
- False teachers are like "grievous wolves" message will "spread like cancer or gangrene."
- Famine, "Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the Lord."
- "See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire... sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell." (Jas. 3:5-7).
- Pollution and defilement of the environment are a reflection of pollution and defilement in our hearts

Catastrophic Pollution

- Industrial accidents that destroy everything
- Train derailment of poisonous chemicals into a mountain stream.
- As chemicals seep into the water, everything dies.
- A few days later, complete devastation and stench.
- Yet God gave His creation resiliency and the ability to spring back.
- Once chemicals are removed or dissipate, God's natural order slowly restores purity to the site.
- Water from the snow and rain scours away the poison and life returns.

A Pure Heart and Sin

- Exact opposites:
- \bullet When the heart is pure No sin
- When the heart is polluted No purity
- Purity is absence of pollution. It is still pristine, exactly as it came from the hands of God.
- Bathes the senses in wholesome sensations.
- To the pure all things are pure: but to them that are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. <u>Titus 1:15</u>
- When this person repents and becomes a believer can this derilement be cleansed and purified.

Catastrophic Pollution

- David was a "a man after My own heart, who will do all My will." Acts 13:22
- Until that moment on the rooftop, David was pure.
- As David climbed the stairs he was pure/undefiled.
- As he walked across the rooftop he was pure.
- As he glanced over the wall, he was still pure.
- When his eye caught a glimpse of a woman bathing.
- He inquired and learned she was the wife of one of his trusted and mighty servants.
- He had been coveting his neighbor's wife...
- On the verge of catastrophic pollution. He still had time to repent and cleanse, but that moment passed.

Catastrophic Pollution

- He sent and took her and committed adultery...
- He found out soon that she was pregnant with his child and her husband was fighting for him in battle.
- From coveting his neighbor's wife ... committing adultery... trying to deceive... committing murder
- Can only imagine the stench, pollution and smoldering smell of death now in David's heart.

In David's own Words

- When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer." Ps. 32:3-4
- 8 Make me to hear joy and gladness, let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice... 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me...12 Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and sustain me with a willing spirit. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation." Ps 51:8, 10, 12

David completed the Entire Process

- Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. James 1:13-15
- I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. 10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. Rom 7:9-11

Now What?

- Man has no answers, but God provided
- Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,
- Whose sin is covered. 2 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit. 5 acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord, And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. 6 For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You In a time when You may be found; Ps 32:1-2

God Created Cleansing

- O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. 16 For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise. Ps 51:15-17
- God's promises and our faith can bring the cleansing to a defiled heart.
- God's Word and our prayers are like the stream that washes and scours away pollution. We can be restored to purity through the gospel.

- But the end of the charge is love out of a pure heart and a good conscience and faith unfeigned: <u>1Tim 1:5</u>
- A heart can be restored to purity if we keep the charge...
- how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Heb 9:14.
- Faith and trust in the power of the blood can restore a pure heart and renew a right spirit.

One of God's Promises

- № 19 And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh; 20 that they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. Ezek 11:19-20
- A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep mine ordinances, and do them. Ezek 36:26-27

We Must Do Our Part

- Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2Cor 7:1
- "7 but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I Jn 1:7-9

We Must Learn from David

When I kept silent about my sin my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. 4 For day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. Selah. 5 I acknowledged my sin to Thee, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; and Thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin. Selah. $Ps \ 32:3-5$

Never Forget

- When we are meditating on Scripture, praying to God for purity, repenting and confessing our sins
- We are cleansing our hearts of all impurities.
- Every time we allow a wicked thought, set something unclean before our eyes or allow the imaginations of our hearts to be defiled we are adding defilement and pollution back in again.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise." Ps 51:17

Godly Sorrow and Repentance Restore Purity

10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. 11 For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter. 2 Cor 7:10-12