

... the Pure in Heart(6)

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

Purity is the natural state of everything God created. As long as things remain as God designed them, they remain pure and wholesome. This is true in both the material creation and within the heart and soul of man. God is our faithful Creator and has given us good and perfect gifts (Jas 1:16-18). The record of creation reveals that all that is in this world was very good. Everything is exactly as it should be. The world we live in, the body God gave us to enjoy it with and the heart and soul in His image and likeness are pure and clean. As long things are kept in this natural state, we have a purity that brings health, contentment, prosperity and peace.

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Gen. 1:31

As with every designer, God has a complete understanding of what is essential for things to work perfectly. Everything creating danger or failure is carefully removed.

As Jesus reveals that the pure in heart are blessed, He is warning us against any impurity within the our heart that creates spiritual pollution or moral defilement. Even with the forgiveness His death purchased, and even with the grace God promised, there are still things that can destroy everything if we don't remove and purify them from our hearts. These impurities of "flesh and spirit" must be cleansed and purged if we are to be blessed.

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2Cor. 7:1

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; Heb. 12:14-16

It is of the highest importance that we learn to identify what is clean, pure and holy and to remove all that is polluted and defiled due to contamination. We must be morally pure, spiritually pure and doctrinally pure. To graphically illustrate the terrible damage spiritual, moral and doctrinal pollution creates, consider the parable of the material creation. The affects of pollution on our environment and our health are devastating.

Pollution in the Material Creation

We have all witnessed the terrible consequences of pollution. God created all chemicals and elements, including radiation, oil, and natural gas for man to take dominion and use. But if they are not carefully monitored and safely stored, catastrophic pollution is always possible. When oil spills into the ocean or a tanker carrying concentrated chemicals breaks open near a lake or stream, there is contamination on a massive scale. We have all seen birds and sea life coated in oil or dead fish floating on the water. We read about the terrible consequences of the meltdown in Chernobyl and the horrific deaths from radiation poisoning.

While the pristine beauty of God's natural order always strikes our senses in a pleasing manner pollution sickens the senses. A rugged beach, even with crashing breakers creates awe and reverence, while a sandy one with warm clear water and gentle waves brings a sense of comfort. A mountain peak capped in snow at sunrise, the beauty of a mature forest in the fall as the leaves turn create a sense of serenity and peace. Our senses glory in the sights and sounds of such things. Where ever the purity of God's original design and plan are evident our entire being rejoices and feels good to be there.

Because we enjoy the taste and benefits of pure air and water or healthy food, we despise and are disgusted with all pollution or uncleanness. It revolts our senses and sickens our heart when we come into contact with gross pollution that defiles the land. The sight, smell, or taste of such contamination leads to a sense of sickness and disgust. If it doesn't taste good, smell fresh, look clean, or feel right, we turn away in disgust.

How blessed are those things in the material creation that are still pure.

Pollution in the Heart and Soul.

In this respect the human heart and soul mirror the material creation. Before sin in the garden, our knowledge of good and evil was limited, just as it is with God. God knows evil exists, but He has never been soiled or polluted with it and has never experienced it, "for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone." (Jas. 1:13-14). So when man (male and female) was created in the image and likeness of God, he too had never been sullied and defiled with evil. This was the great lie of the serpent. Man knew as much about evil as a being created in the image and likeness of God needed to know. They knew the difference between good and evil, but had never experienced its pollution. Adam and Eve were truly blessed to be pure in heart. Yet by their own choice they polluted themselves. They sullied their heart, contaminated their conscience and lost their innocence. The affects of this defilement damaged their relationship as husband and wife along with the pure and clean fellowship they had with God.

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. 8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" 10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." 11 And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" Gen. 3:7-11

The pollution of evil in the heart and soul is every bit as defiling and destructive as pollution in a lake or stream. As massive pollution in a lake kills everything it contacts, so the knowledge of evil, gained by experience, will kill everything it contacts. Although every child is born with a pure spirit and soul, with the same emotions and image as Adam and Eve, the pollution and defilement of sin soon enters and begins the process of corruption and death.

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 1:14-15

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned Rom 5:12

Paul described in detail how his own soul was polluted with the defilement of sin. As he became aware of the command not to covet, he knew it was God's law and he fought against feelings of covetousness. But as Adam and Eve, he was "drawn away by his own lusts and enticed." Finally, when that "evil desire" was "conceived in his heart, it gave birth to sin." At that moment, "sin revived and I died." Thus the pollution of sin entered into Paul's soul and death was the result.

But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead. 9 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. 7:8-11

Through Ezekiel, God plainly revealed that each of us becomes impure, polluted and defiled because of similar decisions. We are not polluted because of what Adam and Eve did, or even because of what our own father and mother did. Each soul sins exactly as Paul and James described and each soul became defiled and contaminated because of that sin.

4 "Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die. ... 20 The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself. Ezek. 18:4, 20

Just as God made Adam and Eve in His image and likeness, so He also made us. We were all made upright, but each of us have sought out our own impurities and our own defiling ways.

Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, But they have sought out many schemes." Eccl. 7:29

No one stays pure. Each one chooses to open up areas that lead to pollution and defilement and the same terrible consequences of death and defilement come to all.

There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one. 13 Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit; The poison of asps is under their lips Rom. 3:10-13

This is what led Paul to warn Timothy and through him all of us about our youthful lusts.

Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 2 Tim. 2:22

Every young man and woman makes choices and creates youthful lusts. Each child is drawn away by these lusts of the flesh and defiled. These youthful lusts remain in our heart, polluting and defiling us as they seek to regain control. We must flee them whatever they are. The great concern of our Lord as set forth in this beatitude rests in the terrible consequences of the pollution and contamination of sin. If sin is not cleansed and removed from our heart, there will be no blessing. Not even His death and all the love and mercy of God can help us if we do not continually cleanse ourselves and keep our heart pure.

The Pure in Heart

Both the material and spiritual/moral realms pollution and purity exist side by side. It is up to us to create a barrier that separates what pollutes, contaminates and defiles, from entering what is pure and clean.

"katharos... clean, pure, (free from the admixture or adhesion of anything that soils, adulterates or corrupts); a. physically... b. in a levitical sense; clean; i.e. the use of which is not forbidden, imparts no uncleanness... c. ethically; free from corrupt desire, from sin and guilt... free from every admixture of what is false, sincere... genuine blameless, innocent..." (Thayer, p. 312; 2513)

Purity is what is "free from anything that soils, adulterates or corrupts." Purity is what is "free from corrupt desire, from sin and guilt," and what is "free from every admixture of what is false." This definition fits perfectly with all we have seen up to this point in the lesson. What God originally created is "free" from all contamination, pollution and defilement. Those who are pure are those who have guarded, protected

and kept themselves safe from those things that defile and corrupt.

Every emotion and desire that creates a need in us is a gift from God that is pure, wholesome and “very good.” But they are all capable of being polluted and corrupted. Since God “*hates divorce*,” is a “*jealous God*” and will feel “*the wrath of God*” (Mal. 2:16; Ex. 34:14; Rom. 1:18), there is nothing inherently impure about hate, jealousy or wrath. Paul had a “*lust*” to “*depart and be with Christ*” (Phil. 1:23), so even lust itself is not defiling. But hate, jealousy, wrath and lust can easily be polluted and defiled. Wholesome ambition can be polluted into covetousness. Healthy sexual desire becomes defiling sexual lust when directed toward anyone but our own spouse. A godly desire for the punishment of the wicked can be contaminated into personal vengeance. Good drugs that bring healing and health can be corrupted into addictions that destroy all that is good.

If we want to be pure we must be careful about the pollution and corruption of all our emotions, desires, and needs. Anything that is wholesome and good can be contaminated and defiled. It can happen slowly over many years as Solomon’s wives turned away his heart, or it can occur in an instant as happened to David.

David’s Catastrophic Pollution

David’s glance on to Bathsheba’s rooftop as she bathed presented a catastrophic event in his heart and soul (2 Samuel 11). His mind was so polluted with lust and desire, that his heart seethed with its poison, and his good intentions and love for God were overwhelmed in an instant. Within moments he had violated two of the ten commandments and only a few weeks later violated a third.

Yet David was a man after God’s own heart. He was a man of faith, love and submission. He kept all God’s will. Yet the pollution of that glance overwhelmed it all. Though he quickly learned she was the wife of Uriah the Hittite (a trusted and valiant servant), and that the desire he felt for this woman was unlawful: “*You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife*” he did not repent. David was married at that time. The pollution could have been set aside and cleansed by repentance the moment he learned she was married. He could have then gone in to one of his wives. But the corrupted and polluted desire wanted a defiling fulfillment. This overwhelmed him and the pure and holy “*man after God’s own heart*” knowingly violated: “*You shall not commit adultery.*”

After the sin was committed and the desires sated, the pollution continued to build. David was not yet pure in heart. When he learned of her pregnancy, he sought to hide the sin by bringing Uriah home from battle. His heart was further polluted as he played the part of a hypocrite, treating the man he betrayed as though he were a friend. Instead of confessing his sin, he chose to hide it. He sought to entice the honorable Uriah to lay with his own wife, but the honor and integrity of Uriah thwarted him. He then stooped to making Uriah drunk in hopes that Uriah under the influence of alcohol would violate his conscience. All of this in an attempt to hide and cover his sin in lies and deception.

When all else failed, he did a terrible and vile thing that revealed the full depths of his polluted heart. It is hard to imagine even the most hardened man doing something so evil and disgusting. David sent his trusting and loyal servant Uriah back, carrying the very letter that asked Joab to put him in fiercest part of the battle and draw back to allow him to die (2 Sam. 11:14-15). Though he did not lift his hand against Uriah, God charged him with breaking another of the ten commandments: “*You shall not kill.*”

You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon. 2 Sam. 12:9-10

David’s heart was no longer pure. The morally defiling poison of that chance glance into the home of another man’s wife created a terrible moral defilement within David’s heart. Many things died as David allowed that pollution to remain within his heart day by day.

When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. 4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Ps. 32:3-4

David admitted that all the joy and gladness was quenched from his heart. He felt like his bones were broken. His heart was defiled and the joy of salvation was gone (Ps. 51). He described the extent of his moral defilement as a heavy burden. It made him feel like he was bent over with it. He went about mourning all day long, felt emotionally numbed and badly crushed. He could not stop groaning because of the agitation he felt within his heart (Ps. 38). Truly these sins had devastating affects! It polluted his heart and soul, and killed what was good as it took control (Jas. 1:14-15).

God sent Nathan the prophet to reveal to David the extent of his pollution and defilement in hopes that even at that late moment when all seemed lost forever, something could still be done. If David had not listened to Nathan and repented, his pollution would have led even the man after God’s own heart to eternal destruction. David came so very close to losing everything. Once again let us consider a parable in the material creation.

Cleansing Pollution and Defilement in the Material Creation

Over twenty years ago a train derailment in the mountains of Northern California led to a tanker car bursting open in a canyon with a mountain stream flowing through it. A lethal concentration of a dangerous pesticide entered the river. In an instant, every living thing in or near the water died. A noxious

cloud of green poisonous gas soon formed, coating all the plants and animals in the area and killing them.

Before the ruptured tanker could be removed, many miles of the stream had become contaminated and it slowly began to seep into Lake Shasta. Above the accident everything was still pure and pristine, alive and healthy, all was well. But all the water flowing downstream was lifeless, bringing death to all it contacted, hopelessly polluted. Experts were perplexed. No solution seemed possible. How could this pollution be contained and removed? How could life be restored to that which was now dead? Yet God's natural order was already cleansing away the pollution. The melting snow in the mountains was scouring the bottom of the river and diluting the poisons.

Although all the affects of the derailment have not yet been completely erased, fish and other life now live in the water. God's great wisdom is seen in the resiliency of His creation to bounce back from such catastrophic death and pollution. God has placed resiliency and powerful healing forces into His creation. Most disasters only need the passing of time to restore God's creative beauty and serenity to them. Vegetation, insects, animals and water life all have a powerful ability to bounce back. Lakes, rivers and streams cleanse themselves and are replenished with fish and life. The land becomes fertile, green and lush again. Animals soon return and before long, things return to their natural state. We should praise God for the great power of redemption He has placed within His physical creation. God's healing and regenerative power is seen in how quickly things can return to their natural state.

Cleansing Moral Pollution and Defilement in the Heart

So it was with David. As Nathan walked into David's presence, he had a great and important task. He sought to cleanse a polluted heart and save a sinner's soul. He was armed with the love, mercy, and compassion of God. God had created the same cleansing, healing, and restorative powers for the human heart and soul that He did for His material creation. David's heart was as defiled and contaminated by moral pollution as that stream above, and Nathan was coming to scour and cleanse it. But the danger was great that for David nothing left was pure and that his mind and conscience were defiled.

To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. Titus 1:15

Yet David was cleansed just as the stream was cleansed and his defiled mind and conscience were cleansed because he listened and did exactly what needed to be done to be restored.

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. 3 When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. 4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah 5 I 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. Ps. 32:1-5

This is how everyone one of us began our life as a Christian. We were so polluted and defiled within our heart that we were all dead. Everyone of us needed God's healing and cleansing power.

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved) Eph. 2:1-5

let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Heb 10:22

Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, 1 Pet. 1:22-23

The writer of Hebrews described the cleansing power of Christ's blood as the means by which our conscience was cleansed and purged. "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). Those of us who now have a pure heart should praise God for that cleansing power. Through the gospel we have been purged so completely that we are not even the same people. God described this in prophesy: "And I shall give them one heart, and shall put a new spirit within them. And I shall take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, Ezek. 11:19

After a Gift of a Renewed and Purified Heart We Must Keep it that Way.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Yet like David even after conversion and a long life of purity and holiness, keeping our hearts pure is still a high priority as pollution is always a frightening possibility. A seared conscience, a root of bitterness defiling the many, itching ears heaping up teachers after their own lusts, and those who allure through lewdness those who have escaped the pollution of the world and bring them back again like the sow to the mire must all be guarded against.

looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; Heb. 12:15-16

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, 1 Tim. 4:1-3

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 2 Tim. 4:3-5

they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage. 20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire." 2 Pet. 2:18-22

Jesus wanted us to make a pure heart a high priority. It is never enough to be cleansed! We have to stay cleansed. Like the stream that scours the bottom and cleanses itself daily, so also we must scour our hearts daily with introspection, repentance and confession leading to forgiveness, a good conscience and purity of heart.

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. 1 Jn. 1:7-9

But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 1 Tim. 1:5-6

David found no cleansing, no purging and no healing until he did these things. The pollution in his heart continued to defile and pollute until he repented and confessed. "When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long," but when he used introspection, repentance and confession, "I 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."

This is the difference! Our heart has a cleansing stream flowing through it. When "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart — These, O God, You will not despise." In this way, our heart is protected from the devastating possibilities each lust can lead to as sin seeks to become full grown and bring death.

Those who repent, confess, and feel remorse and contrition as soon as their hearts are defiled with sin have the cleansing power of Jesus blood healing and restoring their hearts. Those who do not repent immediately after they sin are allowing these defiling poison to remain. This is not walking in the light!

Those who live through an entire day of moral defilement without cleansing it are not walking in the light. If we can commit a sin without a broken and contrite heart (*godly sorrow leading to repentance - II Cor 7:7-11*) that compels us to beg God for forgiveness then our hearts are more like a swamp than a cleansing stream! David's defiling glance was compounded when he did not repent of his wicked thoughts and desires before they turned into deeds. They grew deeper when he did not repent of the adultery and grew to hypocrisy and murder. The defilement was not cleansed and removed until he repented and confessed.

Even as we read this, if we see in our own heart the devastation of a moral cataclysm, emptiness, desolation and devoid of spiritual life, never forget David! When things looked like they could never be fixed, he turned back to God and asked for a clean heart and the return of the joy of salvation . The wonderful end of that story was that God gave it to him! But this is not only for David. It is for all.

Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, 17 Learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. 18 Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD, Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. 19 If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; Isa. 1:16-19

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Titus 2:11-14

We left the water of baptism with all our sins washed away. Though they were as scarlet and as red as crimson, God has made our hearts as white and pure as snow and wool. By grace our hearts were made pure, but what have we done with our hearts since? Now and always above everything else, we must guard our hearts.

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. Pr. 4:23

Our heart is the source of all that springs forth in our life. Our thoughts, words and deeds are all directed by what we allow to enter it. If we keep it pure, then everything else will be pure. We should be more concerned about purity within our heart than purity in our food.

Thus Jesus offered great praise to those who will do everything necessary to keep their hearts pure and keep all impurities out. The first thing we have to do is keep a close eye on what enters the soul through our eyes and ears. Like the psalmist, we have to make the decision to keep ourselves away from all polluting sources.

I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; Ps. 101:3

This means we have to be careful with television, radio, movies, books, evil companions, etc. A pure heart must be so important that we are willing to sacrifice any other thing to keep it pure.

Who shall ascend into the hill of Jehovah? And who shall stand in his holy place? 4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto falsehood, and hath not sworn deceitfully. Ps. 24:3-4

The perverse in heart are an abomination to the LORD, but the blameless in their walk are His delight. Pr. 11:20

God sees the perverted (*twisted, distorted, crooked, perverse*) as an abomination (*a disgusting thing, abominable*). He delights (*pleasure, favor, goodwill*) in those who are upright (*complete, whole, entire, sound, healthful, wholesome, unimpaired, innocent, having integrity*). Thus the way we use our hearts which are the seat of our emotions and intellect will lead to a response in God. If we use our hearts for the pure and the clean things He has decreed, then our heart is as pure as the water melting from the mountain snows and we will be greatly blessed. But if we have become deceitful and corrupt in our dealings with others or insincere in our use of God's word, then that becomes a polluting element entering the heart and polluting it entirely.

They Shall See God

This is the promise Jesus gave to those who are pure in heart. What does it mean? First of all, it means that when this life is over and we catch our first glimpse of God, it will be a happy moment. A moment of great joy and blessedness which will not be so for any whose heart is polluted.

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; Heb. 12:14-16

Yet there is an application in this life as well. Since God is holy, we must become holy to understand Him and his ways. Those who are profane can only mock at the things God asks for because they cannot comprehend Him or His holiness. But once we possess this holiness, we see God so clearly that it is obvious why He would ask for such things and we willingly do them. When we have a pure heart, we will understand and see our pure God in a clearer light than ever before and the more pure we become the more clearly we will see Him.

But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit. 2 Cor. 3:18

- 1 How does God's creation illustrate the condition of our heart?
- 2 What is the "primary idea" of purity?
- 3 Pure water and pure food are easy to understand what about a pure heart?
- 4 If a heart has any insincerity, deceit, or an evil lust, is it pure?
- 5 Is there any impurity or inherent evil in any emotion God gave us in His image?
- 6 How quickly was Solomon's heart sullied by his wives?
- 7 How quickly did David's heart become polluted on the rooftop?
- 8 What must happen to a stream for it to be cleansed after pollution?
- 9 How did David cleanse his heart after the terrible pollution of sin?
- 10 Can our imaginations pollute our heart?
- 11 What do evil thoughts do to our heart?
- 12 Can the gospel purify our heart?
- 13 What does God encourage all of us to do with our heart in Prov 4:23?
- 14 When we have a pure heart what is our perspective of all that we see?
- 15 If our heart is defiled how do we see everything?
- 16 What must never be placed before our eyes?
- 17 When the grace of God appeared, what did it teach us?
- 18 How does purity come in the same way as righteousness?
- 19 How will those who are pure in heart see God?