

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

OWN THE PURSUIT

DAY 6: Friday, January 21st — *New Heart*

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

Matthew 5:9

TAKE OFF THE FIG LEAVES

**Submitted by
Rev. Norman Clayton**

In Pursuit of a Pure Heart

Jesus spoke these words during His famous sermon on the mountainside in Galilee. As he ministered to a large multiethnic crowd on that day.

What does He mean by "pure in heart?"

"Pure" means to be clean, blameless, unstained by guilt, no mixed motives, wholehearted devotion to God.

Heart speaks of the mind, will and emotions.

To "see God" is to experience His presence in one's life and know him intimately in the life to come.

The Beatitudes are congratulatory exclamations. They teach that blessedness come from cultivating attributes that are approved by God. Eric Liddell says that the Sermon on the Mount is a working philosophy of life for the Christian. He quotes G. K. Chesterton as saying, "The first time you read it you feel it is impossible. After the second reading it feels like nothing else is possible".¹

Take the time to read the verse a few times with honesty and after multiple readings ask yourself, "is there is any other way to live?"

Questions

- Describe people in scriptures who were pure in heart?
- What qualifies to be pure in heart?
- Can God congratulate you for being pure in heart?

¹ Eric Liddell, *The Disciplines of the Christian Life* (New York, NY: Ballantine Books, 1985), 45.

---PRAY---

James 4:8

⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Psalm 51:6

Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

Psalm 139:23-24

²³ Search me, God, and know my heart; **test me and know my** anxious thoughts. ²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting

Proverbs 4:23

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

1Peter 1:22

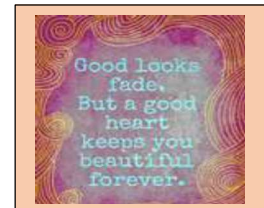
²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.

LIFE APPLICATION

WHO YOU WERE BEFORE YOU WERE "IN CHRIST," IS NOT RECOVERABLE

In Christ, God is not counting people's sins against them, but instead giving them credit for Christ's righteous life

THOSE "IN CHRIST" HAVE BECOME SOMETHING THEY WERE NOT BEFORE



Devotional Text

Psalm 24:3-4

Psalm 51:10

John 15:1-17

1 John 3:1-3

