

## **Presence for the Pure**

Matthew 5:8

- 1. What is the background of this Beatitude?**
  - a. Old Testament concepts of purity.
  
  - b. Purity rituals of Jesus' day.
  
- 2. What is the point of this Beatitude?**
  - a. External purity alone is useless.
  
  - b. Your heart must be cleansed.
  
  - c. Only pure hearts will see God.
  
- 3. What is the hope of this Beatitude?**
  - a. Broken people can experience the presence of God.
  
  - b. God will make all who come to Him whole again.



**BE DIFFERENT**  
**LIVE DIFFERENT**

Matthew 5-7



**ID**

# The Beatitudes

Right : Blessed are the poor in spirit,

Left : **because theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Right : Blessed are those who mourn,

Left : **because they shall be comforted.**

Right : Blessed are the gentle,

Left : **because they shall inherit the earth.**

Right : Blessed are those who hunger and thirst  
for righteousness,

Left : **because they shall be satisfied.**

# The Beatitudes

Right: Blessed are the merciful,

Left: **because they shall receive mercy.**

Right : Blessed are the pure in heart,

Left : **because they shall see God.**

Right : Blessed are the peacemakers,

Left : **because they shall be called sons of God.**

Right : Blessed are those who have been  
persecuted for the sake of righteousness,

Left : **because theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

# Presence for the Pure

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Blessed are the pure in heart,  
because they shall see God.

**What is the background  
of this Beatitude?**

**Matthew 5:8**

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



# What is the **BACKGROUND** of this Beatitude?

Old Testament concepts of purity.

# **Clean vs. Unclean**

## **Genesis 8:20**

Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

## **Numbers 5:2**

Command the sons of Israel that they send away from the camp every leper and everyone having a discharge and everyone who is unclean because of a dead person.

# Ritual Cleansing

**Exodus 30:18-19**

You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base of bronze, for washing; and you shall put it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and you shall put water in it. And Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet from it.

# What was the heart of the matter?

Psalm 24:3-5

Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?

And who may stand in His holy place?

He who has **clean hands** and **a pure heart**,

Who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood,

And has not sworn deceitfully.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD

And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

# What is the **BACKGROUND** of this Beatitude?

Old Testament concepts of purity.

Purity rituals of Jesus' day.

*Jesus was speaking into  
a culture filled with  
religious traditions.*

## **Mark 7:3-4**

For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, thus observing the traditions of the elders; and when they come from the market place, they do not eat unless they cleanse themselves; and there are many other things which they have received in order to observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and copper pots.

*This led to a rigid  
legalism that focused on  
religious ritual.*



## **Mark 7:5**

**And the Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with impure hands?"**

# What is the POINT of this Beatitude?

External purity alone is useless.

**Matthew 5:8**

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

## **Matthew 23:25-26**

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!  
For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.

*Your problem is not simply  
your behavior; it is your  
corrupted heart that  
produces your behavior.*

## **Mark 7:20-23**

And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the person, that is what defiles the person.

For from within, out of the heart of people, proceed evil thoughts, sex before marriage, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness. All these evil things proceed from within and defile the person."

*Cleaning up the outside  
of your life is not going  
to do you any good...  
the issue is your heart!*

## **Colossians 2:20-21 and 23**

...why...do you submit yourself to decrees, such as, “Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!

...These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-humiliation and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.



# What is the POINT of this Beatitude?

External cleansing is useless against sin.

Your heart must be cleansed.

**Matthew 5:8**

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

***You must have a clean heart...  
But you can't cleanse it.***

# What's the solution?

## Titus 3:5

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.

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Only pure hearts will see God.

**Matthew 5:8**

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

**Who are the pure in heart?**

***Those whose hearts have been washed and made holy by God.***

**1 Corinthians 6:11**

And such were some of you; but **you were washed**, but **you were sanctified**, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.

**Who are the pure in heart?**

***Those whose hearts have been washed and made holy by God.***

***Those whose lives reflect this new devotion.***

## **Matthew 23:25-26**

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inside of the cup and of the dish, **so that the  
outside of it may become clean also.**



*Does the outside of your  
life reflect an inside  
cleansed by God?*

# What is the HOPE of this Beatitude?

Broken people can experience the  
presence of God.

**Matthew 5:8**

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

On the one hand Jesus' words  
are more demanding than the  
religious leaders.

*But on the other, they are a  
comfort to the broken.*

## **Luke 4:18-19**

**"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,  
Because He anointed Me to preach the  
gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to  
proclaim release to the captives, And  
recovery of sight to the blind, To set free  
those who are downtrodden, to proclaim  
the favorable year of the Lord."**

**No longer are the infirm  
kept from the “temple” of  
God because Christ was cast  
out as unclean for you.**

# What is the HOPE of this Beatitude?

Broken people can experience the presence of God.

God will make all who come to Him  
whole again.

Matthew 5:8

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



*Because God is faithful to His promises, we can be assured that He will make us fit to be in His presence again.*

# **Revelation 21:3-5**

*How about you...  
do you have a pure heart?*