

**Beatitudes**  
**What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed**

## BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO IS PURE IN HEART

Text: Matthew 5:8

Introduction:

1. The biblically blessed are those who depend upon God.
2. They inherit the promise made to Abraham by submission to God.
3. Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount by describing foundational attitudes that are necessary to follow Him.
4. The first "beatitude" is to be poor in spirit.
5. The second "beatitude" is to mourn.
6. The third "beatitude" is meekness.
7. The fourth "beatitude" is hunger for righteousness.
8. The fifth "beatitude" is to be merciful.
9. The sixth "beatitude" is to be pure in heart...

I. The Context

- A. The Sermon on the Mount
- B. The Beatitudes build upon one another.
  1. One who is poor in spirit will acknowledge that he is a sinner.
  2. He will also realize that he cannot save himself.
  3. Thus, he will also become one who mourns over his sin.
  4. This, in turn, will cause him to give control of his life to God.
  5. Upon making this commitment, he will then hunger for righteousness.
  6. Salvation from sins will motivate one to be merciful toward others.
  7. Reflecting on the mercy of God motivates the Christian to remain pure in heart.

II. The Characteristic

- A. "Heart"
  1. Literally, *"that organ in the animal body which is the center of the circulation of the blood, and hence was regarded as the seat of physical life; denotes the center of all physical and spiritual life."*
  2. The heart is the seat of the intellect...
    - a. We reason with the heart (Mark 2:8).
    - b. We think with the heart (Hebrews 4:12).
    - c. We understand with the heart (Matthew 13:15).
    - d. We believe with the heart (Romans 10:10).
  3. The heart is the seat of our emotions...
    - a. The heart desires (Romans 10:1-3).
    - b. The heart sorrows (John 14:1; Nehemiah 2:2).
    - c. The heart loves (Matthew 23:27).
  4. The heart is the seat of the will...
    - a. The heart holds our intentions (Hebrews 4:12).

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- b. The heart holds our purposes (2 Corinthians 9:7).
    - c. The heart holds our determination (Luke 21:14).
  - B. “Pure”
    - 1. Literally, “*clean, clear; purified by fire; sincere, genuine; free from every mixture of what is false.*”
    - 2. To be free from disease (Matthew 8:1-3).
    - 3. Symbolically used of Heaven (Revelation 21:18, 21; 22:1).
  - C. “Pure in heart”
    - 1. An Undefined Heart...
      - a. Free from sin (2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 9:14).
      - b. Free from hypocrisy (Matthew 23:25-28).
      - c. Free from guilt (Acts 18:6; 20:26; 1 Timothy 1:5; 3:9).
      - d. Free from defilement (Titus 1:15).
    - 2. An Undivided Heart...
      - a. Sincere (Psalm 15:2).
      - b. Honest (Psalm 24:3-5).
      - c. Impartial (James 3:17).
      - d. Single (James 4:8).
  - D. Purifying the heart...
    - 1. Look to God (Psalm 51:6, 10)
    - 2. Word of God (John 15:3)
    - 3. Faith (Acts 15:9)
    - 4. Cleansing (James 4:8)
    - 5. Obeying the Truth (1 Peter 1:22)
    - 6. Blood of Christ (Hebrews 9:14)
    - 7. Baptism (Hebrews 10:22)
    - 8. Practice pure religion (James 1:27)
- III. The Christian
  - A. The Christian strives to be and remain pure in heart.
  - B. For, only the pure in heart will see God (Hebrews 12:14).
    - a. We see God in fellowship (1 John 1:3; 3:6; John 1:14; 14:9).
    - b. We see God in faith (Hebrews 11:27).
    - c. We will see God in the future (Job 19:26-27; 1 John 3:2-3).
  - C. The cleansing blood of Christ keeps our hearts clean and pure.

Conclusion: *Are you pure in heart?*