

Guard Your Heart

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Matthew 5:8

Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. Matthew 23:27

In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness. Matthew 23:28

What does it mean to be pure in heart? God's formula for _____

Three Biblical uses for the word, "heart"

1. E _____

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. John 14:1-3

2. I _____

Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? Mark 8:2

3. Volition (will or c_____)

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. Daniel 1:8

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. Proverbs 4:23

Pure in heart – Transparent integrity

Pure – unmixed, or unadulterated

You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:19

God wants our motives and our actions to be consistent, transparently honest.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know

my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, **Psalm 51:1-4**

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Psalm 51:6-7

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. **Psalm 51:10**

To be happy, live a life of integrity and t_____.
Blessed – happy

The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.
Proverbs 10:9

The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.
Proverbs 11:3

“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.” **Mark 9:37**

“If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”
Luke 9:26

When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false.” (Or, without any guile) **John 1:47**

“Guile” — to be free of deceit, cunning, hypocrisy, or dishonesty in thought or action.

How do we develop a pure heart? We must allow Jesus to purify our hearts.

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?
Jeremiah 17:9

let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.
Hebrews 10:22

He made no distinction between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith.
Acts 15:9

Pure – cathartic, S_____ catharsis

Christ gives us a new heart

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. Ezekiel 36:26

How do you guard your heart to keep it pure?

After you give your life to Christ—

1. Determine to please God more than _____.

How do you guard your heart to keep it pure?

Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; for they loved praise from men more than praise from God. John 12:42-43

Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God. 1 Corinthians 4:5

2. We must fortify our hearts against spiritual _____.

How do you guard your heart to keep it pure?

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:9, 11

**Daily saturate and reinforce your heart and mind _____
through your relationship with God**

- Word of God
- Prayer
- Fellowship with other believers
- Worship services

May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you. Psalm 25:21

3. We need to covenant with a close friend to be _____.

How do you guard your heart to keep it pure?

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16

The pure in heart see God in the _____

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. Psalm 19:1-2

There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. Psalm 19:3-4

Pure in heart see God in g_____ circumstances

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

Pure in heart see God in bad circumstances too

“Have pity on me, my friends, have pity, for the hand of God has struck me. Job 19:21

“Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever! Job 19:23-24

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; Job 19:25-26

I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me! Job 19:27

Pure in heart see God in p_____

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? Matthew 25:37

When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ Matthew 25:38-39

“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’ Matthew 35:40

Pure in heart will see God one day in e_____

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. 1 Corinthians 13:12

Key: happiness, Emotional, Intellect, choice, transparency, Spiritual, people, pollution, mind, authentic, creation, good, people, eternity