

Pure Matthew 5:8 **Pure Hearts See God**

Introduction:

Our Lord Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount takes as His premise encouragement of believers. With each statement of fact; whether you are poor in spirit, or mourning over sin or possessing a meek spirit or extending mercy to those who have been beaten up by their sin or hungering and thirsting for the Word of God, there is a promise of reward. And now another statement of truth: the pure in heart are those believers in Christ who have been redeemed, purchased by the blood of Christ, adopted into the family of God. Their reward is ultimately to see God in all of His fullness and glory.

I. The Christian's Pure Heart – v. 8a

A. Old & New Testament emphasis on the heart – Deut. 30:2; I Sam. 16:7; Psa. 28:7; Rom. 10:9

1. What exactly is meant by the heart? Ans. The heart expresses the whole man – Matt. 22:37
2. The heart expresses the wicked man's rebellion – Matt. 15:19
3. The heart of the Pharisee – Turn To: Matthew 23:25-33
4. The heart of the Lord – I Sam. 13:14

B. The Problem with head knowledge – I Sam. 13:14

C. The heart is the major cause of troubles in the world:

1. The world's hope is to resolve all these troubles by changing the environment. Jer. 17:9; Rom. 3:9-20; I Cor. 15:22
2. Education will resolve the world's problems – Ezekiel 36:25-27

D. The Christian's Heart

1. A singleness of heart – Psa. 86:11
2. A conflict of our members in our body – Rom. 7:22-23
3. An end of the conflict when the bride sees the groom – Eph. 5:26-27

II. The Christian's Beatific Vision – v. 8b.

A. Seeing God literally or spiritually?

1. When we shall literally see God – (Puritans, Watson and Edwards)
2. What is necessary before we see God? Ans. A pure heart unmixed with sin and troubles – I John 1:5
3. Does this mean we shall see God with our naked eye?

B. Examples of seeing God:

1. Moses' vision of God was somewhat blurred – Exo. 33:20-23
2. Theophanies in the Old Testament - Gen. 22: 11,15; 24:7
3. Christophanies – Joshua in Jericho – Josh. 5:13-15

C. No exceptions – John 1:18 (Transcendence and immanence)

1. Seeing Jesus is sufficient – John 14:7-11

D. Christian's do and shall see God – Heb. 12:14

1. The Christian sees God in nature of His universe and in the events of history.
2. The Christian sees God by faith – Heb. 11:27
3. The Christian will see God in an eschatological sense – I Cor. 13:12

Conclusion:

Thomas Watson's interpretation of I Cor. 13:12 is right on!

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