



HOUR OF POWER

Reverend Dr. Major A Stewart



HOW TO SEE
GOD!!!



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January 30, 2024

How To See God (Matthew 5:8)

Matthew 5:1-8 (KJV)

1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

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8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

1. There is a deep desire in every human heart to see God. Like Moses, we want to see God in all His glory (Ex 33:18). However, did you know we can see God every day? In the sixth beatitude, Jesus tells us how to see God (Matthew 5:8). Write it below:

2. Like the previous beatitudes, this one is part of a perfect order or divine sequence. If the previous five beatitudes are true in our lives, we will have a desire to be pure in heart, which enables us to see God. There are at least three requirements for having pure hearts ...

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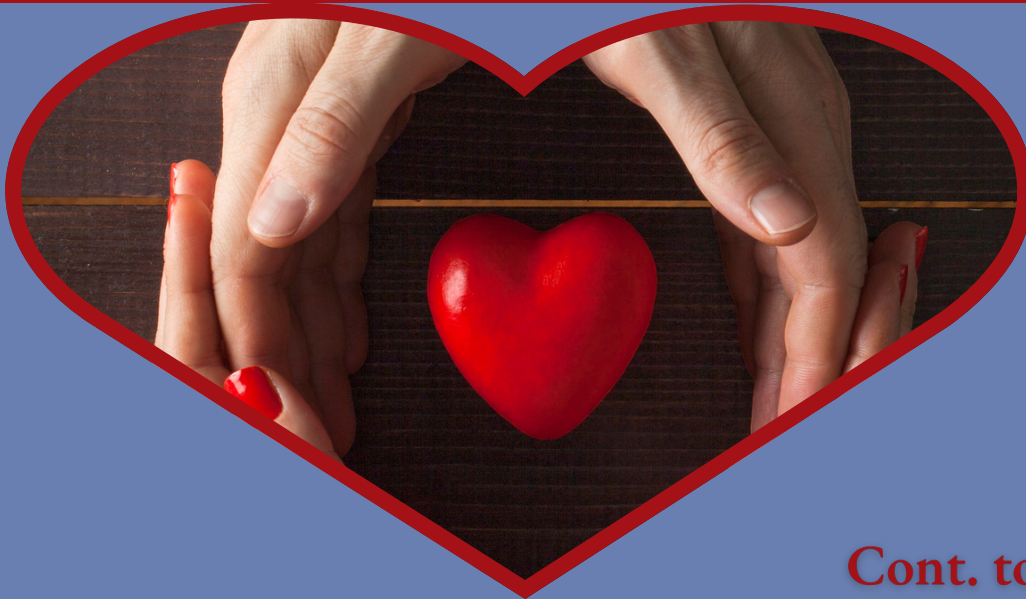
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I. Guard our hearts

a. The word translated heart (KARDIA, car-dee'-uh) is the word from which we get our English word "cardiac." In the Bible, the heart represents the seat of our emotions, thoughts, and desires.

Your heart is your inner person, the real you. For example, when Jesus heals the paralytic man and tells him his sins are forgiven, the scribes (teachers of the law) accuse Jesus of blasphemy (Mt 9:1–3).

Then, what do we read in Matthew 9:4?



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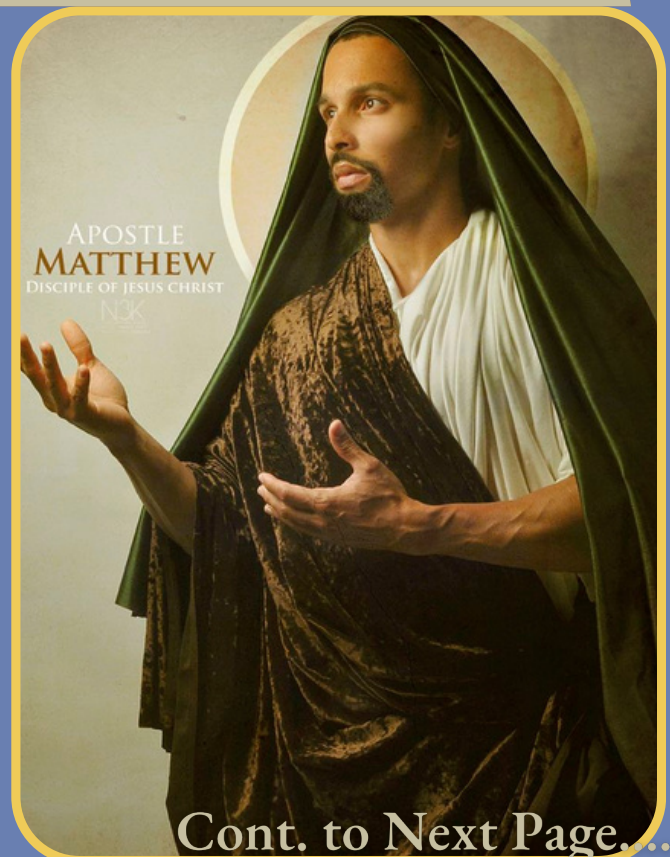
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i. Matthew 9:4 (KJV)

4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

ii. Matthew 9:4 (NIV2011)

4 Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?"





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b. Jesus, being God in flesh and blood, could see through the outward religious sham of the hypocritical scribes to spot their evil thoughts. Whether we are good or evil depends on what's in our hearts. What comes out of our mouths when we are angry, hurt, or frustrated reveals what's in our hearts. That is why Proverbs 4:23 gives us what command?

c. This means we must post a guard at the door of our hearts to keep out impure thoughts. How can we keep our hearts clean with impure thoughts? Psalm 101:3 Write it below: If we want to see God, we must guard our hearts and ...

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II. Develop purifying habits

The word pure (KATHAROS, kath-uh-ros') means clean, free from defilement, or uncontaminated. Being pure in heart is not an accident; it requires daily effort on our part. There are at least three habits we must develop to have a pure heart so we can see God.

1. Read God's Word. To be pure in heart, we must develop the habit of reading God's Word. The Bible calls the process for developing pure hearts sanctification. What does 1 Thessalonians 4:3a tell us?



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1. Read God's Word. To be pure in heart, we must develop the habit of reading God's Word. The Bible calls the process for developing pure hearts sanctification. What does 1 Thessalonians 4:3a tell us?

The word translated sanctification (HAGIASMOS, hag-ee-as-mos') means separation from evil things and evil ways. It literally means "purity." Sanctification is a lifelong process. Regeneration, or conversion, is instantaneous and demands no effort or works on our part (Eph. 2:8—9). However, sanctification is different because it is a progressive process that takes much effort on our part. How does Jesus describe the process of sanctification when He prays in John 17:17?

The first step in the process of sanctification, or developing a pure heart so we may see God, is read God's Word.

2. Request God's help. A pure heart also requires developing the habit of requesting God's help in applying His Word to our lives. Therefore, as we daily read God's Word, we should pray what prayer in Psalm 51:10?



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When we know what God's Word says and how it applies to our lives, we are ready to make the necessary changes that will make us pure in heart. However, we must do more than read God's Word and request God's help. We must also ...

3. Rely on the Holy Spirit. God wants us to have a pure heart, and He never wants us to do anything He doesn't also empower us to do. When we read God's Word and request His help in living as it says, God goes to work in our lives in the person of the Holy Spirit. How does Philippians 2:13 express this truth?

The word translated works (ENERGEŌ, en-er-geh'-oh) is the word from which we get our word "energy." When we develop the habit of relying on the Holy Spirit, He energizes us to do the things necessary to have a pure heart. If we want to see God, we must guard our hearts, develop purifying habits, and ...

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6III. Look for God

Jesus said if we are pure in heart we will see God, but where? Of course we will see Him when we get to heaven. However, we can also see Him now in this world in at least three ways.

1. In places.

I have seen God through His creative powers in the beautiful Rocky Mountains in Colorado, in California, in Tennessee, the Big Sky in Montana, and the beautiful sunrises and sunsets in Oklahoma. I have seen Him in the spectacular beauty of so many places around the world. I have also seen Him in the beautiful stars on a clear night. The condition of our hearts determines if we can see Him in creation. If we are pure in heart, the beauty of spectacular places will remind us of what words of God in Isaiah 45:12a?

2. In people.

When the scribes and Pharisees saw a dishonest tax collector like Matthew or a woman caught in the act of adultery, they saw worthless, sinful people. However, Jesus saw them as lost sheep that just needed a shepherd. When we are pure in heart, we don't see people as they are but as they can be in Christ—masterpieces of God. When we are pure in heart, we realize that every person fits the description found in Psalm 139:14b?

If we are pure in heart, we can see God's wonderful work in even the most difficult person. We will see every person as a "diamond in the rough." To be honest, it is much easier to see God in some people than in others, but the pure in heart have supernatural vision in regard to other people.

If we are pure in heart, we can see God in places, in people, and ...

3. In problems.

The pure in heart know God has a divine purpose for every problem He allows. Many of our problems are designed to help us become pure in heart. How does Psalm 119:67 express this fact?

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When we have pure hearts, our problems make us better people. If we are not pure in heart, our problems make us bitter people. It all depends on the condition of our hearts. There is an old saying: “The same sun that melts butter hardens clay.” When we are pure in heart, we see God in our problems and understand He will use them to make us better people.

When we are pure in heart, we see God everywhere—in places, people, and problems. But the most blessed part of being pure in heart is found in Job 19:26. Write it below:



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THAT MEANS THE PURE IN
HEART WILL BE RESURRECTED
AND SEE GOD AS HE IS. THAT'S
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NOW TO SEE GOD WE MUST
GUARD OUR HEARTS, DEVELOP
PURIFYING HABITS, AND LOOK
FOR GOD ... IN PLACES, PEOPLE,
AND PROBLEMS.



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