

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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Purity

"Great thoughts and a pure heart. That is what we should ask from God." – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"The way to preserve the peace of the church is to preserve its purity." – Matthew Henry

"One of the standards on which your happiness is based, now and in your future, is moral purity."
– Ezra Taft Benson

"A pure hand needs no glove to cover it." – Nathaniel Hawthorne

"The light that now reflects from within you radiates purity and holiness, which causes us to become a light to the world." – Gary Gordon

"Purer in heart, O God, Help me to be; May I devote my life wholly to Thee;
Watch Thou my wayward feet, guide me with counsel sweet;
Purer in heart, Help me to be."

"Purer in heart, O God, Help me to be; Teach me to do Thy will, Most lovingly;
Be Thou my Friend and Guide, Let me with Thee abide;
Purer in heart, Help me to be." (Words by Fannie C. Davison, 1877, verses 1 and 2)

Jesus plainly said in the Sermon on the Mount, "Blessed are the *pure* in heart, for they shall see God" (that which is "clean, clear, and pure," Matt. 5:8). The Hebrew writer elaborates, "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14).

Our modern definition of *purity* centers on the idea of being pure and unadulterated. In the noun form, Webster states, "lack of dirty or harmful substances: lack of guilt or evil thoughts."

For example, "The words of the LORD are *pure* words, like silver tried in a furnace of earth, *purified* seven times" (Psa. 12:6). Even in regard to the very character of God, "You are of *purser* eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness..." (Hab. 1:13).

The apostle Paul admonished the young preacher Timothy, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in *purity*" (1 Tim. 4:12). Granted, for Timothy it was no easy task, just as it is not easy for us today with the abundance of temptation all around us. And the lure of the flesh is all that much harder for the young.

"Purer in heart, O God, Help me to be; that I Thy holy face one day may see;
Keep me from secret sin, Reign Thou my soul within;
Purer in heart, Help me to be. Amen." (verse 3)

For every Christian, the objective should be to be *pure*!