

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God

- **The status of our hearts in our fallen unregenerate condition is stone, deceitful, sick, evil, and full of darkness** (Jeremiah 17:9) (Ezekiel 36:26) (Ecclesiastes 9:3) (Romans 1:18-32) (Romans 2:5) (Matthew 15:9) (Luke 6:45) (2 Peter 2:14)
- **Our hearts are made pure and holy by God at our regeneration and our salvation**
 - **John 2:** Wedding at Cana- purification pots filled with water turned to wine as a sign of the wine of the New Covenant (Jesus' blood) which is the only way anyone can be purified and cleansed.
 - **John 3:5** Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
 - **Titus 3:5** He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,
 - **Colossians 1:21-22** And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, *engaged* in evil deeds, ²²yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach
- **We must pursue holiness and purity continuously in our Christian walk as this speaks to our sanctification.**
 - **2 Timothy 2:22** Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love *and* peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.
 - **1 Peter 1:22** Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a ^[a]sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from ^[b]the heart,
 - **1 Peter 1:14-16** As ^[a]obedient children, do not ^[a]be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, ¹⁵ but ^[a]like the Holy One who called you, ^[a]be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; ¹⁶ because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."
 - **Hebrews 12:14** Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.
 - **1 John 3:3** And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.
 - The elect are predestined to be conformed to the image of God. However, we will not be truly pure and free from sin until we are in our eternal home.
- **God looks at the heart**
 - The pharisees were "clean on the outside, but on the inside was filth and death(**Matt 23**)
 - **1 Samuel 16:7** But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for ^[a]God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."
 - **Matthew 15:7-9** You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you:⁸'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me. ⁹'But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'"
- **God is invisible and no one has seen God.**
 - **John 1:18** No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.
 - Jesus is the image of the invisible God. Jesus has made the invisible God visible.

- **Colossians 1:13-15** For He rescued us from the [u]domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of [v]His beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.¹⁵ [w]He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation
- **Hebrews 1:1-3** God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, ²[a]in these last days has spoken to us [b]in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the [c]world. ³[d]And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and [e]upholds all things by the word of His power.
- **John 4:24** God is [e]spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”
- **John 5:37** And the Father who sent Me, He has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form.
- **1 John 4:12** No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.
- **1 Timothy 6:15-16** which He will [u]bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of [k]kings and Lord of [l]lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him *be* honor and eternal dominion! Amen.
- **Exodus 33:20** But He said, “You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!”
- **Theophanies- Visible manifestation of the invisible God, not the full being of God.**
 - Smoking oven, flaming torch- **Genesis 15:7**
 - Burning bush- **Exodus 3**
 - On mount Sinai- **Exodus 19:18, 24:16-18, 34:5-6**
 - Pillar of cloud and fire- **Exodus 13:21-22**
 - God passes by Moses- **Exodus 33:17-23**
 - Jesus showed some of His veiled glory-**Matthew 17:1-8**
 - If theophanies and a veiled manifestation of God can make people tremble and fall to their faces, imagine what it would be like to see God as He is.

Beatific Vision- The ultimate blessing thing that can be given to a creature is to see God as He is.

- We can't see God in His true being as He is because of sin. We can't see Him not because of an eye problem, but because of a heart problem.
- On the Last Day when we are completely free from the presence of sin and are truly pure, we will see God as He is.
- We will not see a theophany, a reflection, or a manifestation, but the true being of God.
- We will see God as He is!
- We as humans will experience our truest and ultimate understanding of who we are in our creatureliness and humanity when we see Him as He is.
 - **1 John 3:1-3** See [a]how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ²Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. ³And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

God told Moses “I am.” He is not becoming anything, rather He is the only true being. We have our existence and being in Him (**Acts 17:28**).

Who made God? He is! Where did God come from? He is!

We have not seen God, but we love Him (**1 Peter 1:8-9**). However, one day we will see Him and see Him as He is!

