

03.23.22 – A Weekly Word for Covenant Church

Title: “A Pure Heart”

Scripture Reading: [Matthew 5:1-11](#)

Reflection: Rev. George Vink

Whenever I read the beatitudes, I’m drawn to “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” It reminds me of [Psalm 73](#)’s linking God’s being good to those “pure in heart.” A pure heart should describe Christ’s followers, then and now. The “Sermon on the Mount” in Matthew provides an extensive description of how life is to be lived according to Jesus’ revisions of what “you have heard” or those described by “It has been said.”

The “pure in heart” who “will see God” is not limited to those whose hearts have a healthy rhythm. It’s those who have a relationship with our Creator based on their dependence on God for all things, including their eternal destiny. The “pure in heart” enjoy life as God’s gift in which they see God at work with them as well as through them. The divine plan takes time and reflection to discern. It took Peter the disciple several painful experiences to realize that Jesus was molding him. Reading Mark’s gospel with Peter in mind, you’ll “hear” it.

In this lengthy sermon, Jesus prescribes a way of life to be lived by those “pure in heart.” It’s the way of life involving emotions as well as thinking and doing. It’s a way of life including failures, just ask Peter, but also experiences forgiveness and restoration. Again, just ask Peter. And, when we live as God meant us to live, we’ll reflect a purity of heart that leads to being willing to do whatever needs doing or going wherever we’re needed. By doing so, we’ll “see God” as will our neighbors. And “seeing God” this way is a blessing! It takes time. Just remember God was patient with Peter too.

Prayer:

Father, help us to be like Jesus who was “pure in heart.” Endow us with Your Spirit to be who you want us to be, and then do what you want us to do. We want to see you. Amen.

Action Item for the Day/Week:

Look into the busyness of your life and see where God is at work, and ask yourself: *“What’s preventing me from seeing God in my life and its events?”*

Songs for today:

[Take My Life and Let It Be](#)

[Change My Heart, O God](#)