

## FAQ: Sermon on the Mount – “Happy Are the Holy”

Date: July 27, 2025

### What is the primary focus of the sermon and its central theme?

The sermon focuses on the concept of "purity of heart," especially as described in Matthew 5:8:

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."*  
— Matthew 5:8 (NKJV)

The central theme emphasizes the pursuit of genuine purity—both in motive and action—as essential for a believer's relationship with God and ability to glorify Him.

### How does the sermon differentiate between various types of purity?

- Primitive Purity: The essential purity found only in God, inherent to His nature.
- Created Purity: The purity given by God to beings like angels and humans at creation, before the fall.
- Ultimate Purity: The future, complete purity believers will experience in heaven, when all sin is removed.
- Positional Purity: The status granted to believers at the moment of salvation; through Christ's imputed righteousness, they are seen by God as pure.
- Practical Purity: The daily, active striving of believers to live according to their positional purity despite the ongoing struggle with sin.

### Why is "pure motive" not sufficient for true purity according to the sermon?

While pure motives are important, they are not enough. The sermon gives examples of sincere but misguided religious practices (e.g., self-flagellation or walking on nails).

These acts, though done in devotion, lack alignment with God's Word. True purity, drawn from the Greek word *katharos*, involves both a pure heart and holy deeds that conform to Scripture.

### What is the 'struggle of the sinful flesh' and how does the sermon address it?

The sermon reflects Paul's experience in Romans 7, where he desires to do good but ends up doing what he hates.

Believers often have pure motives, but their sinful nature resists. God understands this conflict. He does not expect perfection, but values a heart with pure intentions and a genuine desire for holiness.

### What is 'practical purity' and why is it so important for believers today?

Practical purity is the daily application of one's positional purity in Christ. It involves cleansing oneself:

*"...from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."*  
— 2 Corinthians 7:1 (NKJV)

The sermon expresses concern that the church has compromised practical purity, citing similarities between the church and the world in areas like divorce rates and suicide.

Maintaining practical purity is essential for:

- Glorifying God
- Living a holy life
- Demonstrating genuine faith

### How does the sermon suggest dealing with temptations and failures in the pursuit of purity?

#### Arm yourself:

*"Put on the whole armor of God..."*  
— Ephesians 6:11 (NKJV)

#### Confess and repent:

*"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*  
— 1 John 1:9 (NKJV)

#### Move forward:

Build a bridge and get over it. Do not dwell on failure. Allow God to use the failure as a means to cleanse and restore.

### Is purity a static state or a process? Explain.

Purity is not static, but a daily process. It is part of the journey of sanctification:

The more sanctified a believer becomes, the more pure they will be in their walk. It requires ongoing growth, effort, and dependence on the Lord.

### What is the ultimate purpose of pursuing purity as a Christian?

The ultimate goal is to glorify God:

*"There is no greater purpose in life than to glorify God."*  
—

By living lives of increasing purity, believers:

- Reflect God's nature
- Fulfill their purpose as His people

Even trials and hardships may be used by God to purify and prepare believers for greater glory and intimacy with Him.

### **Greek Word Used**

1. Katharos (καθαρός) – [kah-THAH-ross]

Definition: Clean, pure, free from corrupt desire, sin, or guilt.

In context, it refers to both the inward moral purity of heart and the outward holiness in action.

*"Blessed are the pure (katharos) in heart, for they shall see God."*

— *Matthew 5:8*