



*Blessed are the pure
in heart, for they
shall see God.
Matthew 5:8*

The Battle – World vs Jesus

- **Romans 1:21** - For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.
- **Romans 1:28** - And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.
- **Mark 12:29-31** - Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’³¹ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Six Steps to a Pure Heart

1. Imagines
2. Understands
3. Reasons
4. Thinks
5. Believes
6. Loves

Imagines – Worldly Perspective

- **Genesis 6:5** - The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- **Matthew 15:18-19** - But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.
- **Psalms 14:1** - The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”
They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;
there is none who does good.

Imagines – Christian Perspective

- **Psalm 24:4** - He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. (NKJV)
- **Psalm 51:10** - Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- **Psalm 73:1** - Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

Can You Imagine?

John Lennon – Imagine

Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
No hell below us
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people living for
today

Mercy Me – I Can Only Imagine

I can only imagine when that day
comes
When I find myself standing in
the Son
I can only imagine when all I
would do is forever
Forever worship You

Understands

- **Proverbs 4:7** - The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.
- **Proverbs 18:15** - An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
- **Proverbs 22:6** - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Reasons

- **Hosea 14:9** - Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the LORD are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them.
- **1 John 4:1** - Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Reason – Testing Your Discernment

1. Does it honor God and Jesus?
2. Does it follow the totality of the Holy Scriptures?
3. Does it lead others closer or farther away from Jesus?
4. Does it appeal to the flesh or the Spirit?

Thinks

- **Colossians 2:8** - See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.
- **Romans 8:5-8** - For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- **Romans 12:2** - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Thinks – World vs Christian Mind

- **Romans 1:21-23** - For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.
- **Philippians 4:8** - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Believes

- **John 20:31** - but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
- **Romans 10:9** - because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- **Mark 16:16** - Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Loves

- **1 Peter 1:22** - Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart
- **Galatians 6:8-10** - For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.