

Matthew 5:8 NIV

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

Opening thought: Is this the most unattainable beatitude?

HEART

What does Jesus mean by heart?

Psalm 139 / Exodus 8

Psalm 139

²³ Search me, God, and know my <u>heart</u>; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Psalm 139 / Exodus 8

Psalm 139

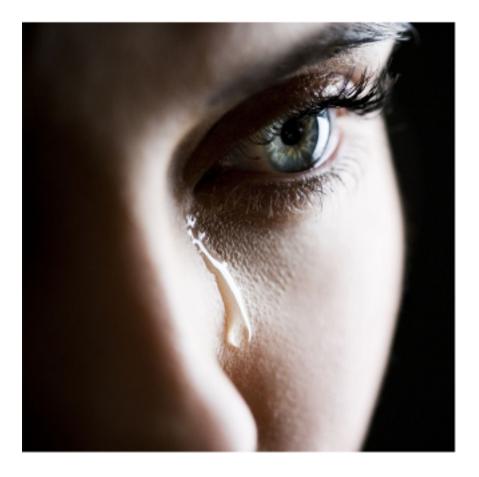
²³ Search me, God, and know my <u>heart;</u> test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Exodus 8

¹⁹ ...the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's <u>heart</u> was hard and he would not listen, just as the Lord had said.

καθαρός (katharos)

Cleansed, clean, pure



ca·thar·sis/ /kəˈTHärsis/

Noun

- 1. the process of releasing, and thereby providing relief from, strong or repressed emotions.
- 2. purgation

Synonyms purgation

- Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

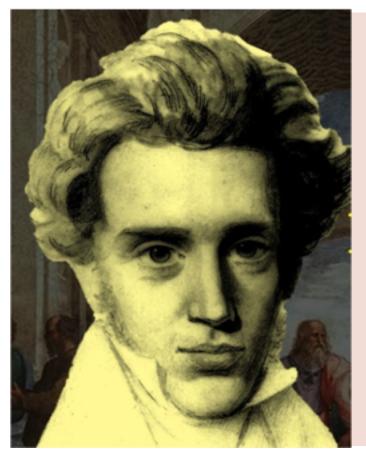
- ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- ⁷ <u>Cleanse</u> me with hyssop, and I will be clean; <u>wash</u> me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Cedar Grove Church

- ¹⁰ Create in me a <u>pure</u> heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

• • •

- ¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- ¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

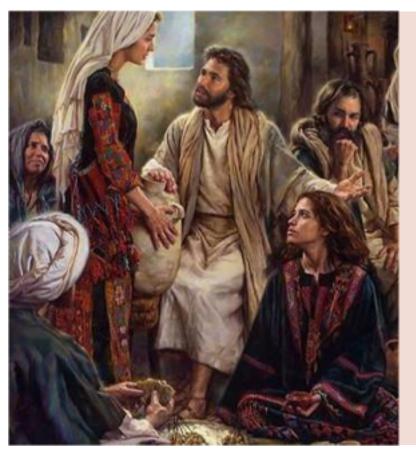


Soren Kierkegaard

Purity of Heart is to Will One Thing

James 4:8

Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you doubleminded.



Mary and Martha (Luke 10)

⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."



J.M.W. Turner

The reflection of God is in everything he created and the pure in heart are blessed to be able to pick up on that!

Cedar Grove Church May 28, 2023





