(Matthew 5:8) BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD"

INTRODUCTION

The beatitude is in contrast to the Pharisee focus on outward appearance.

(Matthew 23:25) "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. (v28) "For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness."

- "Pure" sincere; unmixed; not alloyed; absence of any foreign element.
- "Heart" not the physical blood-pumping organ; rather, the "inward man."

 (2 Corinthians 4:16) "Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day."

 The "heart" that must be "pure" is our intellect, emotion, will, and conscience.
- "See God" not with physical eyes; rather, with a "pure heart." (spiritual eyes)
 - "See" to grasp a concept; understand; comprehend; to be enlightened in mind. We've said, "I can see right through him" "I see the truth in that" "I see" said the blind man. "I see that honesty is the best policy"
 - (John 1:18) "No man has seen God at any time ... " (John 4:24) "God is Spirit" (John 14:9) "He that has seen Me has seen the Father" (Colossians 1:15) "He ("Jesus") is the image of the invisible God" (3rd John v11) "... But he who does evil has not seen God."
- 1. INTELLECT (Matthew 9:4) "But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said,
 Why do you think evil in your hearts?" (Matt. 13:15) "lest they should
 understand with their hearts and turn" and (Proverbs 23:7)
 (Romans 10:10) "For with the heart one believes unto righteousness"
- 2. EMOTION (2 Samuel 6:16) "... and she despised him in her heart"

 (Romans 10:1) "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved" (Matthew 22:37) "Love God with all your heart ... "

 (Proverbs 3:5) "Trust in the Lord with all your heart"
- 3. WILL (1 Corinthians 7:37) "he who stands steadfast in his heart"

 (Acts 11:23) "that with purpose of heart they should"

 (Romans 6:17) "you obeyed from the heart"
- 4. CONSCIENCE (1 John 3:20-21) "For if our heart condemns us, God is ... "

 (1 Peter 3:21) "the answer of a good conscience toward God"
- CLOSE: (Proverbs 4:23) "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life" (23:7) "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he"