

The Pure in Heart

By Rev. Timothy G. Oshokoya
(Preached in Lagos)



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

No one could be pure in heart without first of all attaining an outward holiness, the first work of Grace which is Justification by faith. No wonder David wrote in the 24th chapter of the book of Psalms verses 3 & 4:

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?

"He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."

If you want to see God, you must have a pure heart, your heart must be clean. The Word of God helps us to achieve this.

The Word of God is His status, His judgment and His love. The whole universe came into being through His Word. His Word is life. The many things we enjoy around us today came into being through His Word. The sunshine we enjoy, the moon, the air, different seasons, the vegetables and all the edible things around us all came into being through His Word. God commanded and they came into existence. But today, many people are neglecting and running away from God the very source of their life and joy. To run away from God is to run away from life into destruction. The Word of God is judgment. The first judgment pronounced on Adam and Eve was death for sin. The Bible says that, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:20), that is God's judgment. Man lives daily in the midst of death because the Bible says light has come into the world, but man loves darkness rather than light. Man is surrounded by sin and death. Their days are full of nightmares, evil dreams, sorrows, heart-aches and headaches, high blood pressure, hypertension, strokes, rheumatism, unhappiness, restlessness, void of peace, full of confusion and numberless of evils and woes. Sin has also drained the purses of many.

"Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes." (Haggai 1:6).

All these that have been mentioned above are nothing but death.

Man seems to be running away, ignoring God from all his daily activities and thereby incurring God's judgment. In order to escape all these evils, God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to deliver man. This same Jesus shed his blood on the cruel Cross of Calvary for your sins and mine. Once the blood of Jesus is applied to our sinful life, it brings about outward cleansing. Immediately you are settled with God, that is to say, tell God all your sinful ways, ask Him to forgive you and promise Him never to go back into them again, the Spirit of God will come down and convince you that you are a child of God. No matter how ignorant or illiterate you may be, you need no one to tell you that you are living a new and changed life.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Old life has vanished, foolishness, jesting, lies, drunkenness and all sorts of evil practices will go. The power to go and sin no more becomes yours. Why? Because if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Your outward holiness is attained.

This experience with God will reveal to you that your heart needs to be purified.

At regeneration, you become one of the happiest men on earth. You begin to live and walk with God, claim all His precious promises, divine healing becomes yours. The grace of God to exercise patience, faith and love is bestowed on you freely. The light of Jesus shines to your neighbours through you. You press forward for more of God because you want to be at the peak of God's love.

You now press on to pray for sanctification, this will ensure the removal of the adamic nature. As you consecrate your whole life you become separated unto God because you desire to please God, to be useful to Him, to remain in favour with Him and to be in the centre of His will.

"Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth". (John 17:17).

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:" (I Thessalonians 4:3).

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1).

You need to present your body to God. Not part, but all your body because you want to be totally His. This will have to be done because God will not accept a dead sacrifice. He says a living sacrifice. When you consecrate and lay all on the altar for God, He sanctifies you. When this miracle takes place in your heart, you will know because it will be replaced by an immeasurable divine love.

In the Old Testament, this experience of sanctification was known as "a stony heart changed to a heart of flesh." At sanctification the heart becomes totally cleansed, emptied of all adamic nature and ready to be filled with the Holy Ghost.

This sanctified heart now becomes a table of prayer, a burning incense burning from earth to heaven. Wonderful! Continuously, prayers will be pouring out of your heart ascending to the throne of grace.

Now with this entire sanctification, you will be able to pray down the power of the Holy Ghost into your life.

You want to be conformed to the plan of God. All that God has in plan for your life will be your desire, nothing more, nothing else, nothing less. With such a heart, I assure you that you are a candidate for our Lord's Second Coming. That is God's promise, John 14:2,3.

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

If you want to be part of His Second Coming, you must purify yourself always with the Word of God, with holy thoughts, with prayers, consecrating to do the will of God; consecrating to be out and out for God.

This spiritual state will put the hunger to carry the torch light of the Gospel all over because you will not want to limit it to your church or locality.

What are you thinking about winning more souls for God? Since you got saved, can you assess how many souls you have brought to the Saviour?

If you want to be among those precious saints, the Church Militant Jesus will transform at His Second Coming, to be part of the Church Triumphant, you must be all out and out for God. How are you preparing to meet God? Are you going to meet God with an empty hand? or sheaves? How many sheaves will you present to your loving Saviour?

Since you got saved, consider it. "I have been enjoying God's riches, blessings, protection, provision and precious promises", but how many souls have you brought to His fold? What have you done to promote the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ Who redeemed you, Who

will come to take you up to glory? How am I going to meet or face Him? With empty hands, with no soul? Will you be going back to heaven for reward or to be judged for works undone?

If an assessment were done on earth here, there will be fraudulence. In heaven, it is not so. Any work done for God will receive reward, and if not, there will be no room for fraudulence. You must reap what you sow on earth, God is a just God. Well, this is another opportunity for you if you have been failing God, to set things right.

"Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

"I know thy works, and thy labor, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are Apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast labored, and hast not fainted.

"Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

"Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candle-stick out of his place, except thou repent." (Rev. 2:1-5).

If you have never been saved, find a convenient place, go down on your knees and talk it over with God.

"Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18).

Go on your knees and reason with God, pray until the Spirit of God bears witness with your soul that your name is written in the Book of Life. The love that will be kindled will make you seek for more of God's blessings amongst which is the purification of the heart.

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:" (Hebrews 12:14).

Do you want to get to heaven? Do you want to see the Lord? Then make Holiness your goal. For without Holiness no man shall see the Lord.