

The Road to Recovery
Part #6 – The Purity Choice
Sunday November 8, 2009
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“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” (Matthew 5:8)

“The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”
(1 Samuel 16:7)

“The earth is the LORD’S and everything in it, the world and all who live in it; for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand on his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face O house of Jacob. Selah”
(Psalm 24:1-6)

Q – What does it mean to be ‘pure in heart’?

→ J.B Philips – ‘utterly sincere’

→ Kent Dobson – ‘to be without hypocrisy’

GK. ‘hypokritēs’
“an actor on stage”

Characters in the Old Testament who saw God:

1. Moses saw God (Exodus 33)
HUMILITY
→ Numbers 12:3, 6-8
2. Jacob saw God (Genesis 32)
HONESTY

Characters in the New Testament who searched for God:

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Luke 18:9-14)

1. The Pharisee Approach
CONFIDENT AND CRITICAL
2. The Tax Collector Approach
HUMILITY AND HONESTY

