

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
SERMON NOTES
FEBRUARY 09, 2020**

**"KINGDOM CHARACTER: The Pure in Heart"
Matthew 5:8**

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

This morning, I am faced with a real challenge! At first glance, I can say, "Oh yeah, I'm reasonably pure; after all, I haven't robbed a bank or murdered anyone." Then I remember that I am not the final arbiter of moral purity in the Universe – God is! And, when I consider His standard of absolute perfection, I have to turn a bit more reflective! (Psalm 15:1-5; 24:3f; Isaiah 33:14-16; Matthew 5:48)

And, it becomes very obvious, very quickly that _____
_____!

A. What are we to do?! Though certainly not an exhaustive list there are perhaps four realms for us to focus on to get started.

1) _____:

(Philippians 4:8; Hebrews 4:12-13)

2) _____:

(Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 3:8,9)

3) _____:

(Deuteronomy 27:26; Matthew 7:21; Luke 6:46)

4) _____:

(Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 3:2,3)

Even these four can seem overwhelming, if we are really paying attention, because, moral purity is completely impossible...

_____!

B. If we are to succeed in this endeavor of living out of a pure heart, we must be utterly dependent upon five irreplaceable resources that are ours in Christ...

1) _____
(2 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12)

2) _____
(Isaiah 61:10; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 3:17; Col. 1:27)

3) _____
(John 16:5-11; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Galatians 5:25)

4) _____
(Exodus 34:6,7; John 3:16,17; Ephesians 2:4-9)

5) _____
Which, for me, is expressed something like this...

"I am a sinner, saved by the Grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ. I have done nothing – and never can – to make me worthy of this great gift; but Christ has paid the price and borne God's wrath in my stead and I am robed in His righteousness and ingrafted into His life so that I shall live with Him in Glory, forever a co-heir. Because of this, I love Him and want to serve Him by loving others and by pointing them to Him."

"Let's commit ourselves to embrace and communicate the Good News and to make use of all the rich resources which are ours in Christ in our pursuit of purity and becoming like Him!"