

## New Purity

**Isaiah 43:18-19** - *Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. 19 Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*

I believe it's a constant challenge of believers and something the scripture is clear about yet we don't talk about it much...and that's the topic of purity.

I believe **God wants us to come out with a New Purity.**

In 1 Peter 1 - Peter would write to a group of believers who he was encouraging...to not be afraid to look different...he starts off the book telling them you are foreigners in the land.

**1 Peter 1:13-16 NLT** - *13 So **prepare your minds** for action and **exercise self-control**. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. 14 So you must **live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires.** You didn't know any better then. 15 **But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy.** 16 For the Scriptures say, **"You must be holy because I am holy."***

**Holiness and purity are synonymous. To be Holy is to be set apart.**

People end up changing scripture to adapt to lifestyle - with the theology that God wants me to be happy no matter what.

- **God does not exist to serve us—We exist to serve him**

### 3 TRUTHS OF PURITY

#### 1. CONTAMINATION COMES THROUGH EXPOSURE

- What we expose ourself to will eventually effect us. What we continually allow in our hearts, in our minds and in our spirits will eventually contaminate our heart.
  - **Proverbs 4:23** - *Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.*
- Everyone else is doing it - we make people our standard.
- **Romans 12:1-2 NLT** -*1 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. **Let them be a living and holy sacrifice** —the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. 2 **Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.** Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.*
- Contamination comes from the outside IN. Transformation comes from the INSIDE OUT.
- It is possible to be IN the world and not OF the world. To live holy in an unholy world.
- **John 17:15-17 NLT** - *15 I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. 16 They do not belong to this world any more than I do. 17 **Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.***

*He's not trying to get us out of the world...He wants to get the world out of us!*

## **2. PURITY IS NOT ACCIDENTAL IT IS INTENTIONAL.**

- **1 Peter 1:14** - *So you must live as God's obedient children. **Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires.***
- People slip into sin, they don't slip into Holiness.

**1 Peter 1:13** *So **prepare your minds** for action and **exercise self-control.***

Be alert. Be sober minded. Don't be deceived...there is an enemy who wants to use every occasion to contaminate you, defile you and ultimately destroy you.

**Matthew 26:41** - ***Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation.** The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

Now is not the time to sit back and indulge, it's the time to watch and pray.

## **3. PURITY PREPARES US FOR PURPOSE**

**1 Thessalonians 4:3** says "For this is the will of God, your sanctification."

**Sanctification is the process, holiness is the result. - We are not just set apart FROM the world, we are set apart TO God.**

**2 Timothy 2:21-22 NLT** - *21 **If you keep yourself pure, you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.** 22 Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, **pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace.** Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.*

## **YOUR PURPOSE IS TIED TO YOUR PURITY**

**Malachi 3:2-3 NLT** - *2 "But who will be able to endure it when he comes? Who will be able to stand and face him when he appears? For he will be like a blazing fire that refines metal, or like a strong soap that bleaches clothes. 3 He will sit like a refiner of silver, burning away the dross. He will purify the Levites, refining them like gold and silver, so that they may once again offer acceptable sacrifices to the Lord.*

*Silver and gold have to go through a refining process through fire to remove anything impure..and what's left is a clean precious metal with a pure reflection.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:23-24** - *23 Now **may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.** 24 He who calls you is faithful; **he will surely do it.***

**The invitation today is to put a renewed focus on holiness - A new focus on purity**