

GROWING IN PURITY
#SermonPurity
Growing God's Way Part 7
Dr. Mark Jackson, October 16, 2017
2 Peter 2:10-16

1 Thessalonians 4:3a God wants you to be pure... (LB)

2 Peter 2:14b ...they seduce people who aren't sure of what they believe. (GW)

2 Corinthians 11:3 I'm afraid that exactly as the Snake seduced Eve with his cunning ways, you are being lured away from the simple purity of your love for Christ. (MSG)

Colossians 2:8 Be sure that no one leads you away with false ideas and words that mean nothing. Those ideas come from men. They are the worthless ideas of this world. They are not from Christ. (ICB)

Three Ways False Teachers Try To Seduce You

1. WITH THEIR IMPURE MOUTH (VS 9b-12a)

2 Peter 2:10-12 This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the sinful nature and despise authority. **Bold** and **arrogant**, these men are not afraid to slander celestial beings; ¹¹ yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not bring slanderous accusations against such beings in the presence of the Lord. ¹² But these men blaspheme in matters they do not understand... (NIV)

Proverbs 15:26 The LORD... delights in pure words. (NLT)

How To Keep Your Speech Pure

- Speak TRUTHFULLY

Ephesians 4:25a Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully... (NIV)

- Speak POSITIVELY

Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs... (NIV)

- Speak KINDLY

Colossians 4:6 When you talk, you should always be kind and pleasant... (NCV)

2. WITH THEIR IMPURE MORALS (VS 12b-14)

2 Peter 2:12b -14a They are like brute **beasts, creatures** of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like **beasts** they too will perish. ¹³ They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to **carouse in broad daylight**. They are **blots** and **blemishes, reveling** in their pleasures while they feast with you. ¹⁴ With eyes **full of adultery**, they **never stop sinning**; they seduce the unstable... (NIV)

Matthew 6:22-23 If your **eye is pure**, there will be sunshine in your soul. ²³ But if your eye is clouded with evil thoughts and desires, you are in deep spiritual darkness. And oh, how deep that darkness can be! (LB)

How To Keep Your Eyes Pure

- Focus on **ETERNAL THINGS**

Colossians 3:1b ...focus on the things that are above... (GW)

- Focus on **THE BIBLE**

1 Timothy 4:13a ...focus on reading the Scriptures... (NLT)

- Focus on **JESUS**

Hebrews 12:2a We must **focus on Jesus**, the source and goal of our faith... (GW)

3. WITH THEIR IMPURE MOTIVES (VS 15-16)

2 Peter 2:14b-16 they are **experts in greed**--an accursed brood! ¹⁵ They have **left the straight way** and **wandered off to follow the way of Balaam** son of Beor, who **loved the wages of wickedness**. ¹⁶ But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey--a beast without speech--who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness. (NIV)

1 Timothy 6:5 These people always cause trouble. Their minds are corrupt, and they have **turned their backs on the truth**. To them, a show of godliness is **just a way to become wealthy**. (NLT)

Matthew 5:8 **Blessed are the pure in heart**, for they will see God. (NIV)

How To Keep Your Heart Pure

1. **REPENT** of your sins - Psalm 51:10
2. **RECEIVE** God's forgiveness - Joel 2:13

3. **REFOCUS** on God's word- Psalm 119:9
4. **REQUEST** God's help daily - Psalm 101:2

1 Corinthians 1:30 ...Christ made us right with God; **he made us pure** and holy, and he freed us from sin. (NLT)