

# THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

John 17:13-19

Lesson #58

Purity

01/29/2017

## Jesus is praying for three things:

**Intimacy**  
in our knowledge of God.  
vs. 2

**Purity**  
in our relationship  
with the world.  
vs. 13-19

**Unity**  
in our relationship with the church.  
vs. 20-26

1

## Holy, Holiness, Sanctified, Saint

**Meaning:**  
**Separation**  
(from the world unto God)

2

### John 17

"<sup>13</sup> But now I come to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy made full in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth."

3

### John 17

"<sup>13</sup> But now I come to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy made full in themselves."

**The joy of human fulfillment  
rests in bearing God's image.**

**The lie**  
**worldly values**  
**(Satan vs. Eve)**

*Romans 1:25*

"For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator"

**The truth**  
**kingdom values**  
**(being fully human)**

*Matthew 6:33*

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

4

## Consider

1. **Serving two masters is popular but not possible.**

*Matthew 6:24*

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

2. **If we want true joy - We must resist the lies that tempt us to "find our lives" without "losing them" for Christ's sake.**
3. **"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matt. 6:21 - Invest in the kingdom and your heart will follow.**

5



<sup>14</sup> I have given them Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

### **Resist the lie of finding joy through loving the world or being loved by the world.**

**Lie #1** loving the world = joy      **Lie #2** the world loving you = joy

*1 John 2:15*

"Do not love the world nor the things in the world, If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him"

*1 Thessalonians 2:4*

"... so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who examines our hearts."

6

## **Consider**

1. **Loneliness leaves us open to temptation to find security in this world's acceptance.**

*Galatians 1:10*

"... If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ."

2. **Our longing for acceptance - is an invitation to intimacy with God, which will give us power to resist the world's seductive lies.**
3. **Intimacy with God - This was Jesus' first petition for his followers because it is the foundation for the other two.**

7

<sup>15</sup> I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth."

### **Sanctification is being in but not of the world.**

1. **Jesus' example - associating with sinners.**
2. **Loving those that God loves - praying for those who bear God's image, are victims of the Fall and in need of hope.**

8

## **Consider**

1. **Our spiritual conflict is not with flesh and blood (people) but with Satan.**

*Ephesians 6:12*

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."

2. **Love people - Our enemy is not sinners who disagree with us or who are broken by sin.**
3. **Satan tempts us to hate - The real temptation is to yield to him rather than stand against him.**

9

<sup>18</sup> As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth."

### **We are called to be alien ambassadors to a hostile world.**

1. **We are on a Mission - we are bearers of light (truth) to a world that seeks hope.**
2. **We are called to be faithful and flexible - as we bear witness to the truth without losing our saltiness.**

10

## **Consider**

1. **We are not to hide our light.**

*Matthew 5:16*

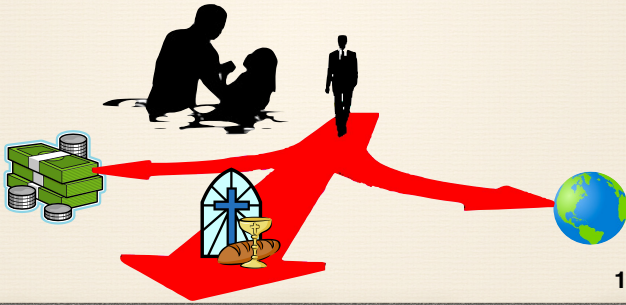
"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

2. **Good works - are to be seen as motivated by our connection to the vine (Christ).**
3. **Our motive - is not to be loved but to be light that draws others to Christ.**

11

### **Making good moral decisions starts with pointing your life in the right direction.**

- Strategic (macro) decisions set the stage for good tactical (micro) decisions.
- Take your baptism seriously - renew the mind.



12

### **Observations on the formation of practiced holiness**

1. True Holiness is hard to measure.
2. Holy people tend to not focus on
  - a) holiness,
  - b) rules, or
  - c) comparisons with others.
3. True Holiness starts with a renewed mind.
4. Spiritual growth in holiness is parallel to growth in spiritual / emotional maturity.

13

### **Many believe that our security is in practiced holiness.**



**Tom Schreiner**  
(Southern Baptist Theological Seminary)

"There is no salvation apart from obedience or good works. Indeed, Paul emphasized that believers must accomplish their own salvation."

(Phil.2:12-13)

14