A scenic landscape featuring a large mountain range under a blue and orange sky, with a misty valley and a lake in the foreground. The mountains are rugged and rocky, with some snow patches. The sky is a mix of light blue and warm orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The foreground shows a calm lake reflecting the sky, with a line of trees and a misty valley in the middle ground.

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT
Mt. 5:8

Mt. 5:8 Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Review

Several weeks ago, we began the exegesis of this great sermon preached by the Lord Jesus Christ.

I. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BLESSINGS, 5:1-16

A. The Setting, 5:1-2

B. The Sayings, 5:3-12

1. What We Are, 5:3-5

2. Where We Aim, 5:6

3. Ways We Act, 5:7-9

a. When Facing Cruelty, 5:7

Tonight, we continue studying this great sermon, “The Sermon on the Mount,” focusing upon verse 8.

- Note the progression of the *Beatitudes* that we have studied thus far:

Mt. 5:3 Blessed *are* the **poor in spirit**: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed *are* they that **mourn**: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed *are* **the meek**: for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed *are* they which **do hunger and thirst after righteousness**: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed *are* the **merciful**: for they shall **obtain mercy**.

8 Blessed *are* the **pure in heart**: for they shall see God.

9 Blessed *are* the **peacemakers**: for they shall be called the children of God.

- With Mt. 5:6 as a pivotal point, consider how the first three *Beatitudes* compare with the last three:

Mt. 5:3 Blessed *are* the **poor in spirit**: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. / 7 Blessed *are* the **merciful**: for they shall **obtain mercy**.

4 Blessed *are* they that **mourn**: for they shall be comforted. / 8 Blessed *are* the **pure in heart**: for they shall see God.

5 Blessed *are* **the meek**: for they shall inherit the earth. / 9 Blessed *are* the **peacemakers**: for they shall be called the children of God.

- These six *Beatitudes* have too much in common to be coincidences.

Mt. 5:6 Blessed *are* they which **do hunger and thirst after righteousness**: for they shall be filled.

the **poor in spirit** = the **merciful**:

they that **mourn** = the **pure in heart**

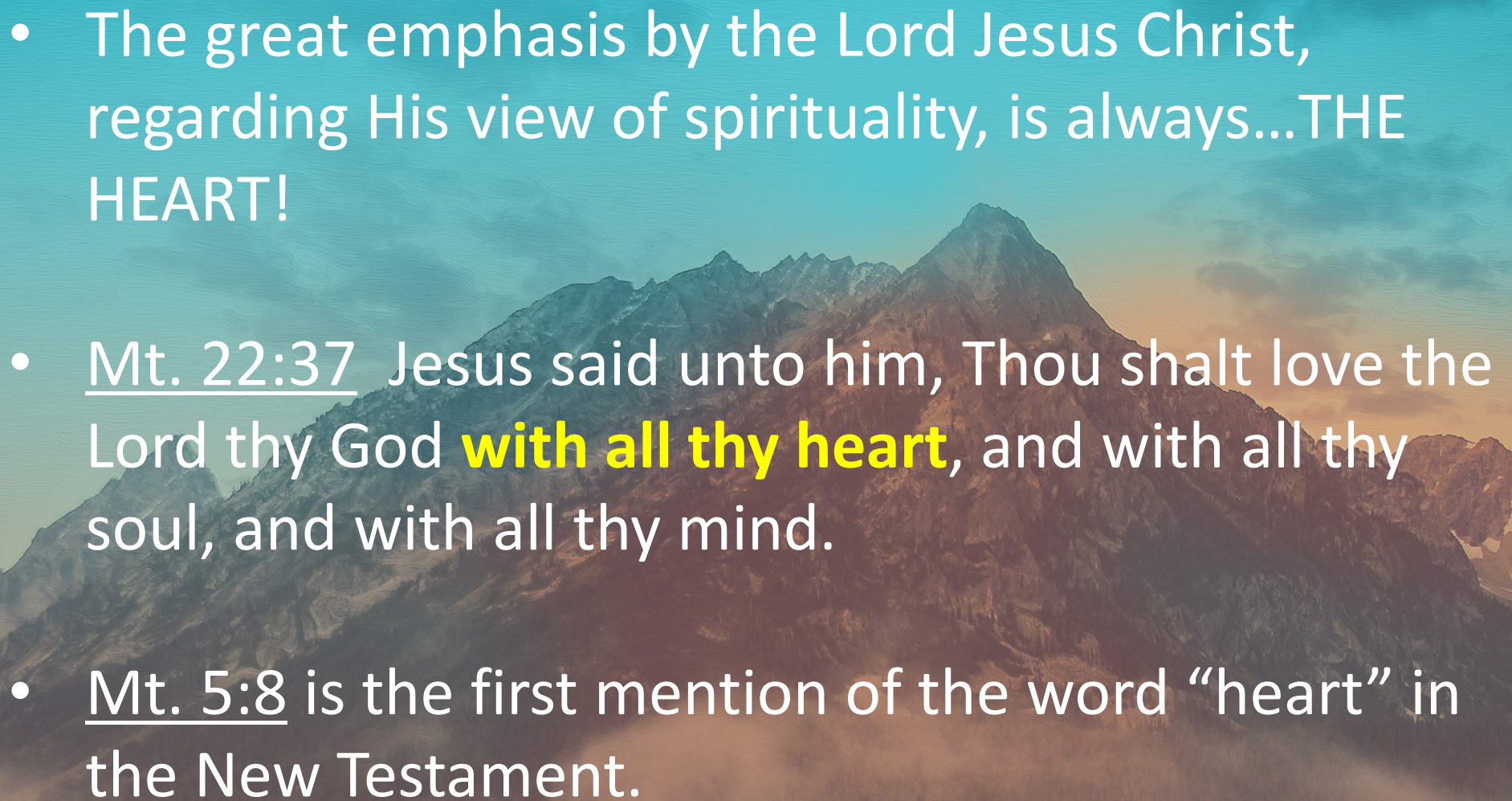
the **meek** = the **peacemakers**:

- Tonight, we will place our focus upon verse 8:

b. When Facing Corruption, 5:8

Mt. 5:8 Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

- The basic truth of Mt. 5:8 = a pure heart is only possible through the cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, the imputation of His righteousness, which guarantees fellowship with God for eternity.

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- The great emphasis by the Lord Jesus Christ, regarding His view of spirituality, is always...THE HEART!
 - Mt. 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God **with all thy heart**, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
 - Mt. 5:8 is the first mention of the word “heart” in the New Testament.

Original Word: καρδία

Transliteration: kardia

Definition: heart

Usage: lit: the heart; mind, character, inner self, will, intention, center.

kardía – heart; "the affective center of our being" and the capacity of moral preference (volitional desire, choice; see P. Hughs, 2 Cor, 354); "desire-producer that makes us tick" (G. Archer), i.e our "desire-decisions" that establish who we really are.

[Heart (*kardía*) is mentioned over 800 times in Scripture, but *never* referring to the literal physical pump that drives the blood. That is, "heart" is *only used figuratively* (both in the OT and NT.) <https://biblehub.com/greek/2588.htm>

❖ The purity of this *Beatitude* is in regard to a cleansing like none other:

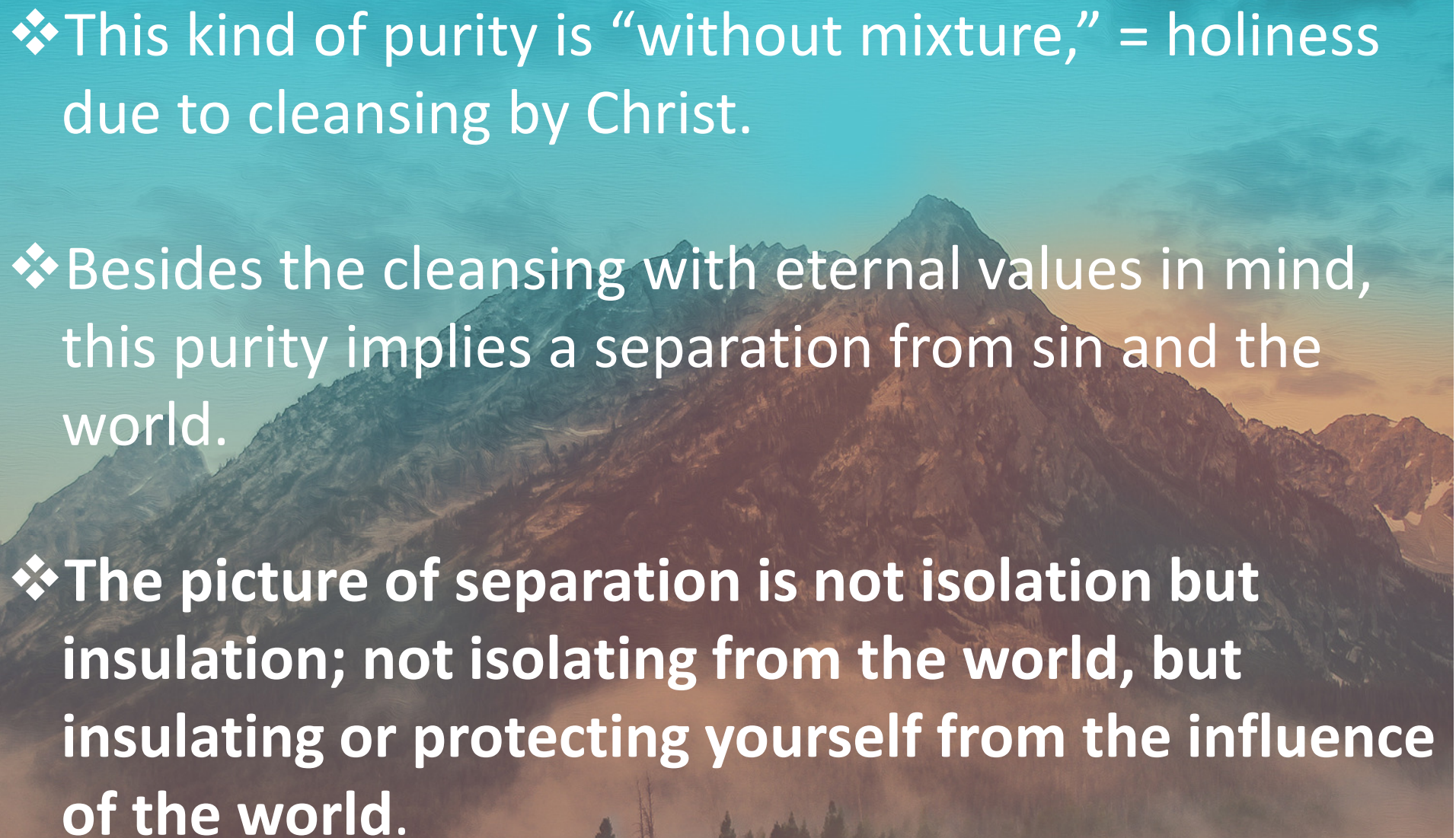
Original Word: καθαρός

Transliteration: katharos

Definition: clean (adjective)

Usage: clean, pure, unstained, either literally or ceremonially or spiritually; guiltless, innocent, upright. – pure, as being cleansed.

katharós (a primitive word) – properly, "without admixture" (*BAGD*); what is separated (purged), hence "clean" (pure) because *unmixed* (without *undesirable elements*); (figuratively) spiritually *clean* because *purged* (purified by God), i.e. free from the contaminating (soiling) influences of *sin*. <https://biblehub.com/greek/2513.htm>

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- ❖ This kind of purity is “without mixture,” = holiness due to cleansing by Christ.
 - ❖ Besides the cleansing with eternal values in mind, this purity implies a separation from sin and the world.
 - ❖ The picture of separation is not isolation but insulation; not isolating from the world, but insulating or protecting yourself from the influence of the world.

1 Tim. 3:9 Holding the mystery of the faith **in a pure conscience.**



2 Tim. 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that **call on the Lord out of a pure heart.**

Titus 1:15 **Unto the pure all things are pure:** but unto them that are **defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure;** but **even their mind and conscience** is defiled.

1 Pet. 1:22 Seeing **ye have purified your souls** in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* **love one another with a pure heart fervently:**

Mt. 6:21 For **where your treasure is, there will your heart be** also.

❖ The "pure in heart" are those who are single-minded in their devotion to God, and therefore morally pure inwardly, which produces an outward display of purity.

Psa. 24:3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?

4 He that hath clean hands, and **a pure heart**; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Psa. 51:6 Behold, thou desirest truth in **the inward parts**: and in **the hidden part** thou shalt make me to know wisdom. ...

10 Create in me **a clean heart**, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

❖ The heart is the focus of the Lord as it is the source of mankind's problems:

Mt. 15:19 For **out of the heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Jer. 17:9 **The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked:** who can know it?

❖ Israel was rebuked by the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah for their hypocrisy: Isa. 1:10-17, Jer. 7:3-7

❖ Consider the record of David's repentance: Psa. 51:4-17

❖ Peter explained how God provides salvation for all men.

Acts 15:8 And **God, which knoweth the hearts**, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as *he did* unto us;

9 And put no difference between us and them, **purifying their hearts by faith.**

10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But **we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved**, even as they.

- Purity for eternity is from God's cleansing; the believer is to pursue personal cleansing and holiness from the earthly perspective.

1 Pet. 1:15 But as he which hath called you is holy, **so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;**

16 Because it is written, **Be ye holy; for I am holy.**

- There is an earthly perspective of holiness and "seeing God."

Heb. 12:14 Follow peace with all *men*, and **holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**

Original Word: ὁράω

Transliteration: horaó

Definition: to see, perceive, attend to

Usage: I see, look upon, experience, perceive, discern, beware.

horáō – properly, *see*, often with *metaphorical* meaning: "to see with the mind" (i.e. spiritually see), i.e. perceive (with inward spiritual perception).

[The aorist form (*eidon*), is discussed at *eídō*, "see." The future tense, and middle-passive form, are discussed under *optánomai*, "see."]

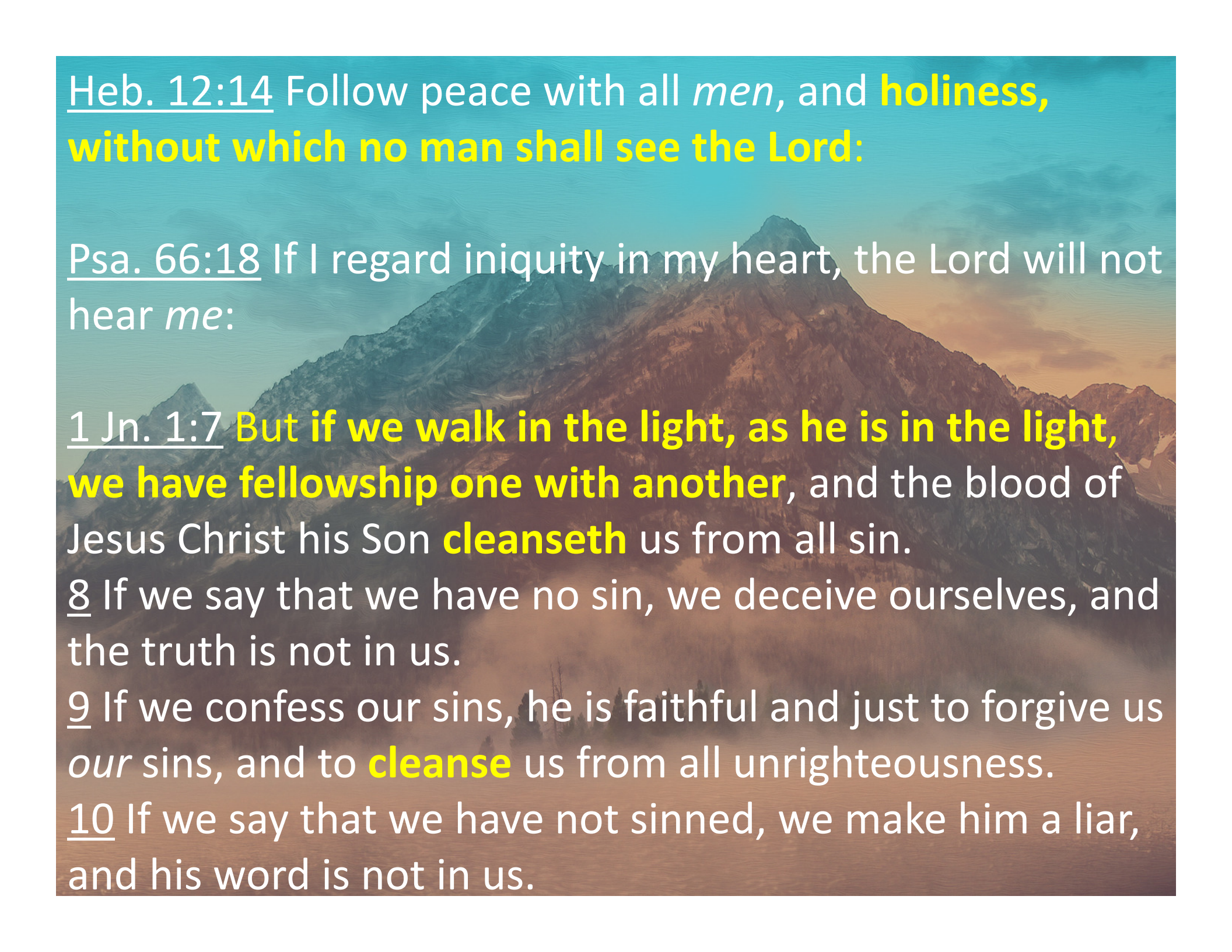
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- Isaiah had a vision of the Lord in Isa. 6:1-13: It is mentioned in Jn. 12:39-41:

Jn. 12:39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again,
40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with *their* eyes, nor **understand with *their* heart**, and be converted, and I should heal them.

41 These things said **Esaias, when he saw his glory**, and spake of him.

- Holiness is a conditional prerequisite for fellowship.



Heb. 12:14 Follow peace with all *men*, and **holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**

Psa. 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me*:

1 Jn. 1:7 **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another**, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son **cleanseth** us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

- Fellowship is conditional for spiritual enlightenment – 1 Cor. 2:9-10, 14:

1 Cor. 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

10 But **God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit:** for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

14 But **the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:** for they are foolishness unto him: **neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.**

- No man has seen God the Father apart from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jn. 1:18 **No man hath seen God at any time**; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.

1 Jn. 4:12 **No man hath seen God at any time**. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

- In order to “see God,” we must see the Son, and THEN we will see the Father.

Jn. 6:46 **Not that any man hath seen the Father**, save **he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.**

Jn. 14:9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father**; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?

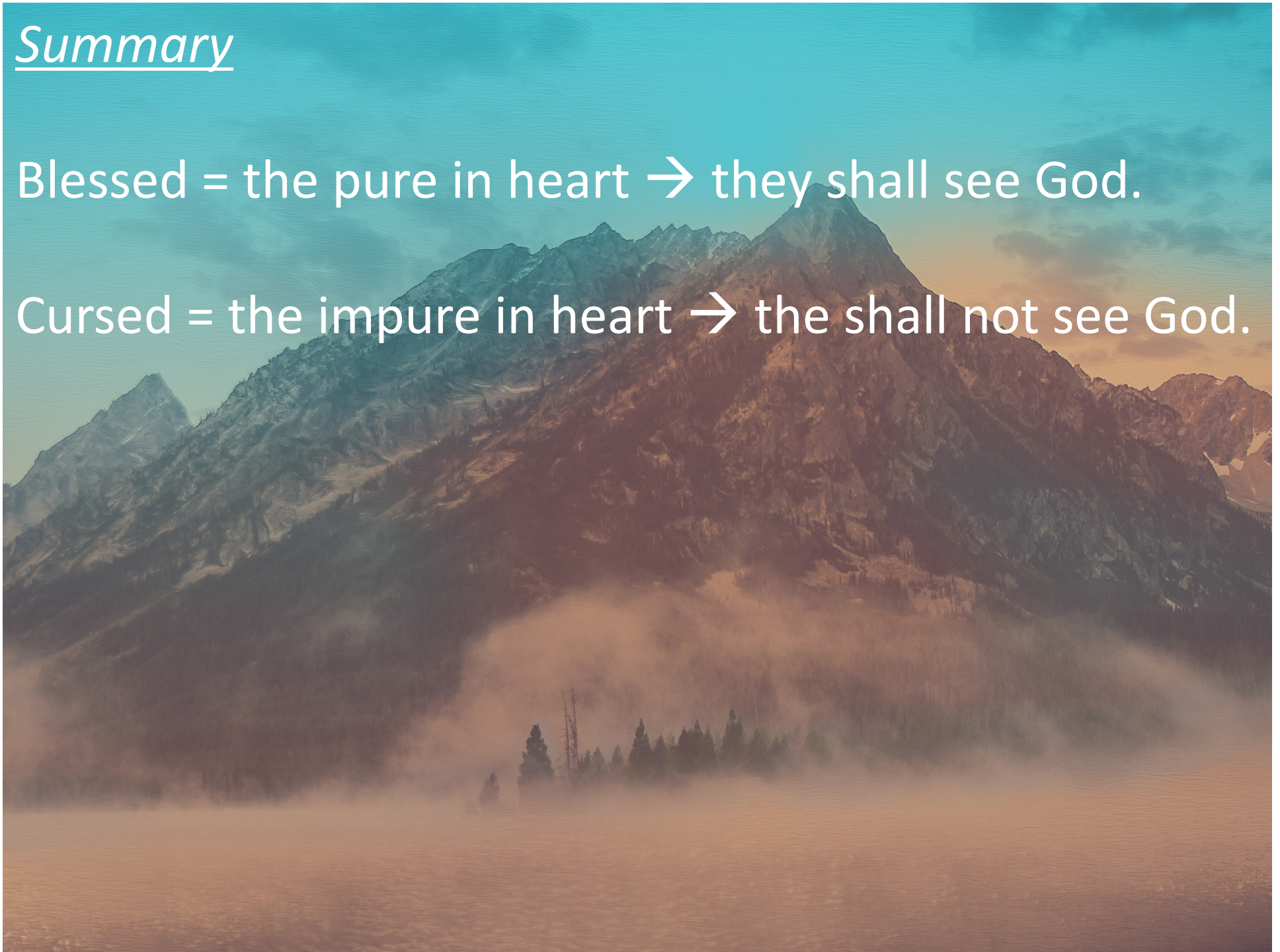
- During our lives, we are to “run with patience the race that is set before us” by...

Heb. 12:2 **Looking unto Jesus** the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Summary

Blessed = the pure in heart → they shall see God.

Cursed = the impure in heart → they shall not see God.



Conclusion

Psa. 86:10 For **thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.**

11 **Teach me thy way, O LORD;** I will walk in **thy** truth: **unite my heart to fear thy name.**

12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, **with all my heart:** and I will glorify thy name for evermore.

13 For **great is thy mercy toward me:** and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.