

# Drawing Near to God

## Introduction

1. Throughout the ages, kings, rulers, and presidents have enforced the strictest conditions and requirements for those wanting admittance to their presence.
  - A. Jehovah, the Supreme Ruler, has set down conditions for coming to His presence as well.
    - 1) The writer of Hebrews gives the conditions for those of us who wish to draw near to almighty God.

Hebrews 10:22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

## A True Heart

1. A true heart is necessary to see God.

Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God."

2. Standing in God's presence requires a pure heart, one not contaminated or polluted.

Psalms 24:3-5 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

### **3. A true heart is not divided between the things of God and the things of the world.**

James 4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that **friendship with the world is enmity with God?** Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

#### **A. Note if you will, the soldiers of the tribe of Zebulun:**

1 Chronicles 12:33 of Zebulun there were fifty thousand who went out to battle, expert in war with all weapons of war, **stouthearted men who could keep ranks;**

#### **B. A true heart is necessary to receive God's Word.**

James 1:21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and **receive with meekness the implanted word,** which is able to save your souls.

Luke 8:15 But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word **with a noble and good heart,** keep it and bear fruit with patience.

#### **C. A true heart is free from hypocrisy.**

**Matthew 23:25-28**

## An Assured Faith

- 1. Faith is necessary to please God.  
Hebrews 11:6**
- 2. An assured faith is a confident faith, one that completely trusts God and His Word.**

Psalms 40:4 Blessed is that man **who makes the LORD his trust**, And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

Proverbs 3:5-6 **Trust in the LORD with all your heart**, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God is pure; **He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.**

- 3. An assured faith is living and active. This faith obeys God and is blessed because of it.  
James 2:14-17**

Hebrews 5:9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation **to all who obey Him,**

## A Clean Conscience

1. **In the Old Testament, the blood of an animal was sprinkled by the priest on the altar to make atonement for the people.**

**Leviticus 1:1-9**

2. **The sprinkling of blood was also used by Moses when the Mosaical covenant was confirmed and to consecrate the High Priest and his garments.**

Exodus 24:8 And Moses took the blood, **sprinkled it on the people**, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words."

Exodus 29:21 And you shall take some of the blood that is on the altar, and some of the anointing oil, and **sprinkle it on** Aaron and on his garments, on his sons and on the garments of his sons with him; and he and his garments shall be hallowed, and his sons and his sons' garments with him.

3. **In the New Testament, it is the blood of Christ which makes atonement for one's sins.**

**Hebrews 9:11-14**

- A. **Since it is sin that separates us from God, it is Christ's blood that allows us to be brought near to God.**

**Isaiah 59:1-2**

Ephesians 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been **brought near by the blood of Christ.**

- B. **But when does the blood of Christ make atonement for our sins?**

**1 Peter 3:21.**

- C. When we are baptized, we appeal to God for a good conscience. As a result, God cleanses us with the blood of His Son.**

Ephesians 5:26 that He might sanctify and **cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,**

Romans 6:3-4 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore **we were buried with Him through baptism into death,** that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

## **Conclusion**

- 1. For us to be able to approach God, we must possess a true heart, an assured faith, and a clean conscience.**
  - A. Then we can serve the living God with confidence.**  
**Hebrews 10:19-22**
- 2. God desires that we come to Him. But in order to do so we must come before Him as He directs.**
  - A. Are we ready to get rid of sin in our lives so that we can look forward to living an eternity with Him. The choice is ours.**

