

## KEEPING THE CHURCH PURE

Jesus wants the Church to be “a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Ephesians 5:27). Jesus wants the Church to be PURE! How can YOU and I do to help keep the Church pure?

1. *Practice Pure Religion.* ONLY pure and undefiled religion is pleasing (James 1:27). Pure religion must focus on the following:

- a. Pure object of Worship—God.
- b. Pure sacrifice for sin—Jesus.
- c. Pure form of request—Prayer.
- d. Pure spiritual of abode—Church.
- e. Pure eternal home—Heaven.

2. *Portray Pure Lives.* Christians must be pure in heart (Matthew 5:8), speech (Philippians 1:27), conduct (Matthew 5:16) and deed (2 Corinthians 7:1). Christian purity is illustrated by the following:

- a. Pure Virgin (2 Corinthians 11:2).
- b. Pure Gold (1 Peter 1:6ff.).
- c. Pure branch (John 15:2).

3. *Preach Pure Doctrine.* The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). It alone will convict and change the hearts of men! May we strive to fulfill the Great Commission in our lifetime and perpetuate the purity of Christ’s Church. May we proclaim the message of Jesus...

- a. Boldly and without fear (Philippians 1:14).
- b. With love as our motivation (Ephesians 4:15).
- c. With souls as our focus (1 Timothy 4:16).

Conclusion: We must strive to practice religion that is both pure and undefiled, lest we succumb to the Devil’s most dangerous weapon, self-deception. AMEN!

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A prayer to God: Please dear Lord, help us to be strong in our religion, to be pure in all the ways that we have studied in this lesson; and help us to be strong as we war against the Devil and his angels. In Jesus name AMEN!