

## A Pure Mind

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by Wayne Goff

Some brethren have partaken too much of the spirit of the world's scornful and are worldly-wise in their understanding of **the double entendre** (that is, a phrase with two meanings, one usually indecent). Paul warned of these in Titus 1:15-16 when he wrote

*"To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work."*

It is possible to partake so much of this world's disposition without *realizing* how polluted our minds can become. I am pretty naive about a lot of things in this life, but it's because I *choose* to be naive. I do not desire to hear, think, and be like the sinful world who makes a joke out of nearly everything. TV shows like **South Park**, **King of the Hill**, and **The Simpsons** can leave one with a cynical, hateful disposition. I *choose* not to partake in these things. I am trying to protect my heart and mind.

We need to realize that it is *possible* to become **so gross in heart** as to cause us to either lose our faith or be unable to have faith! The Jewish nation of the first century had largely become just like that! And they were greatly offended when the evangelist Stephen called them out!

*"You **stiff-necked** and **uncircumcised in heart and ears!** You always **resist** the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it" Acts 7:51-53, emphasis mine, wg.*

These were Jewish people who were *supposed* to be in a close covenant relationship with Jehovah, and who were not to participate in the sins of the world! But they became murderers of Jesus and some of the apostles — just as their ancestors had done to the prophets of old! Could this happen to us? Of course it could! *"Therefore 'Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. **Do not touch what is unclean**, and I will receive you.'" 2 Cor. 6:17. "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit**, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." 2 Corinthians 7:1.*

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