

**YOU WILL BE CHANGED****A. (:8) WHEN YOUR HEART IS PURE YOU'LL SEE GOD EVERYWHERE**

## 1. Pure

a. *Katharos* = re. catharsis (e.g. after a good cry)

## 2. Heart = Inner Self

a. Motives / Desires / Intentions / Purpose - the me that is no longer "me" centered

## 3. See = Discern / Recognize

a. We see God in the beauty of creation - that's easy. But do we see God in calamity?

b. You don't just see God when you're attention is on Him (e.g. at church);

## 4. This Is The First Real Outcome Of The Process Jesus Is Teaching About

a. When you've come to terms w/your own spiritual poverty & received the riches of God's grace;

- When the full impact of the consequences of sin reaches your head & heart;

- When you realize who you are & how you fit in God's kingdom;

- And crave right living / thinking / decisions - right being - according to God's righteousness;

b. Then... you're finally free from the poison & pollution of the flesh driven life & you begin to see God - His presence, power, influence - in everything

c. *You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.* (MSG)

**B. (:9) WHEN YOU BURN TO BRING GOD'S PEACE TO OTHERS, YOU'LL KNOW YOU'RE HIS CHILD**

## 1. This Is Not A Reference To Generic Political Or Social Peacemaking (ala Henry Kissinger)

a. It's about resolving the conflict between man's natural spirit & God's supernatural Spirit

## 2. As A Result Of Seeing Existence From God's Perspective, You Find Yourself Discerning The Real Conflict That Prevents Peace In The Heart Of Man

a. It's not a lack of financial security / perfect health / perfect relationships that keeps peace away

c. That's why Jesus is central

d. Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, housing the homeless... those are all wonderful expressions of care & concern (Jesus: "whatever you do for the least of these...")

## 3. Children Imitate Their Parents

a. When we put ourselves, our comfort / security on the line to bring God's peace, we show ourselves to be God's children

b. Evangelism must flow from a pure heart. That's why vs. 8 comes before vs. 9

c. The MSG doesn't quite hit the target with this Vs. But it's close:

**C. (:10) WHEN YOU'RE PERSECUTED FOR GOING AFTER GOD'S BEST, YOU'LL KNOW YOU'RE PART OF GODS KINGDOM**

## 1. Persecuted = Driven Away With Harassment &amp; Hostility

a. In a positive sense, this word can mean to run after, with everything you've got

b. As used here, it can mean to run away from the threat of physical, bodily harm

## 2. For Righteousness' Sake

a. ≠ for being obnoxious

b. The basic claims of the Xian faith are reasonable, rational & logical, as well as historically & scientifically verifiable: So why are unbelievers so inclined to want to run us off?

3. When You Do Get It Right, Persecution Is A Given - And A Badge Of Honor (:11-12)

a. This was true then, it's true now & it's only gonna get worse - so expect it