

Obtaining Purity (Psalm 119:9-6)

“How can a young man keep his way pure?”

An Image of Defense (v.9)

- To remain pure, we must guard against temptation (**Eph. 6:10-18**).
 - Temptations will come (**Luke 17:1**).
 - To fight temptation, we must remain on guard (**1 Pet. 5:8**) and look for the escape route (**1 Cor. 10:13**).
- God provides a tool for guarding against sin – prayer (**Luke 21:36; Matt. 26:41**).
 - We must guard ourselves by praying for strength in times of trial (**Matt. 6:13**).
 - When we do succumb to the temptations of the devil, we must make it a top priority to convene with God in prayer upon repenting of our sins (**1 John 1:9**).

A Heart Set on God (v.10-16)

- To remain pure, our hearts must seek after God (**v.10-11; Prov. 3:5; Col. 3:1, NIV**).
- Our entire being must be set on serving God (**Matt. 22:37; Luke 9:23**).
- To have a heart set on God means we are willing to obey every commandment He requires of us (**v.12; John 14:15; 1 John 5:3**).
- We have to train our hearts to be set upon Him (**Psalms 119:112; Prov. 2:2, 4:23; Rom. 12:2; Heb. 4:12; James 4:8b**).
- More than mere obedience is required if we want to be seen as pure by God. We must also take joy in obeying Him (**v.14, 16; Rom. 7:22**).
- We should mirror the attitude of the psalmist, inclining our hearts to God in joyful obedience. If we do, God will likewise incline His heart to us (**James 4:8a**).

Conclusion

- The writer of Psalm 119 clearly desired purity.
 - We too must desire purity (**Matt. 5:8; 1 Tim. 4:12, 5:22**).
- We should replicate the Psalmist's example by being ready for the battle against sin and setting our hearts on God (**Phil. 4:8**), joyfully obeying Him (**Heb. 13:18, NLT**).
- If we pattern our lives by mirroring the example the psalmist provides, then we will be well on our way to keeping ourselves pure before the eyes of our Lord.