

# Bible Study Resource

## A Sojourner's Guide

1 Peter 1:22 thru 2:3

*"Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls . . ."*  
(1 Peter 1:22a, NASB).

As sojourners, Peter encourages us in our pursuit of personal holiness. This pursuit is a command that requires an active choice on our part, to lay down what is impure so we can pursue what is holy. Pursuing holiness is a personal journey of obedience to God. That personal journey starts with an evaluation of the purity of your soul in light of God's Word. Once you have honestly turned away from the sin God has revealed to you, your journey continues as you maintain the purity of your soul. Once these two are accomplished, the results will be evident your actions and your desires.

### **Purifying the Soul – Psalm 19:7-14**

This passage is a window into the soul of the writer as he faces conviction from the instruction of the Lord. How do you respond when God convicts you? Do you turn to God in recognition, or do you turn away? How do you move from confession to true repentance? Turn this passage into a personal prayer, praising God for His perfect instruction and seeking His conviction in your life. Invite Him to show you your sin from His perspective. Ask Him to address your hard-heartedness and teach you to have a compliant heart to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

### **Maintaining the Purified Soul – Proverbs 4:20-27**

Maintaining the purity of the soul requires diligence, vigilance, and endurance. You must be diligent to feed on the Word of truth, be vigilant to discern the schemes of the Devil, and have endurance in the face of trials and temptation. How does this passage encourage you to read and study your Bible? What guidance does it give you to discern and avoid the schemes of the enemy? How does it counsel you as you face trials and temptation?

### **Evidence of the Purified Soul**

A purified soul will produce distinctive evidence in three areas of your life: a growing love for other Christians, an earnest desire for God's Word, and a deepening personal relationship with Him. As you examine your own life, what evidence do you find?

#### **Love for other Christians - 1 John 4:7-20**

How is God's love growing in you? How do you reflect the love of God to others? How is the Holy Spirit reassuring you as you experience the love of God and share His love through acts of service to others?

#### **Desire for God's Word - Matthew 5:6, Psalm 119:9-20**

How much do you desire to read and study the Bible? How often do you choose other activities over spending time in the Word? How do you treasure God's Word in your heart, and how does your "treasuring" affect your desire? How might you use your quiet moments to mediate on the Word?

#### **Deepening Relationship with Him - John 15:1-17**

How do you cultivate a deepening relationship with the Lord? How do you remain in Him? How do you abide in Him? How do these actions influence you in your daily activities?