

1) **So, the psalmist raises the question and then immediately answers it for himself and us**

B) **Answer: [R. 9b]**

1) **The implied *it* is the psalmist “way of life”**

(a) **According to the this passage, there is only one way to have a clean life**

(b) **There is only one way to have a pure life**

(c) **There is only one way to walk in a way that is affirming to the Lord**

2) **That is to keep, guard, protect your life according to God’s Word. This being the Word as divine communication means the totality of His Word.**

(a) **Purity does not come about in any other means. [Q] What are some other ways we try to clean up/to purify our lives?**

(i) **I am going to stop... (this takes care of the outside but does not take care of the inside)**

(ii) **I just don’t want to or I have no desire to... (relies up our own strength and breeds a self-reliance)**

(iii) **If one makes a commitment (I am not going to sin in this particular way ever again) These tend to be vain promises often right after the person sinned in that specific manner**

(iv) **I am working on this area of my life (could be limited by man's definition of the sin) Totality of the Word of God**

(v) **We just need time to work on it (could be you are avoiding the sin and hoping time will solve it)**

3) **If one is not inclined to think rightly in this life then one will not be inclined to live rightly in this life.** The proper perspective to living a pure way of life is to recognize it must be according to what God has spoken.

(a) **[Q] Now, why must it be according to God's Word?**

(i) **He knows what is best**

(ii) **He knows how we can be pure**

(iii) **He cares for us perfectly**

(iv) **His Word gives us a way to measure our faith**

(i) **We step out in obedience to God Word**

(ii) **We step out and trust God Word (over ourselves)**

- 4) **If you are struggling with a particular sin then you need to get into the Word to find out how the Lord describes it, how the Lord defines it, how the Lord determines its inability to master you**
 - 5) **And if you are battling sin and finding victory you still need to go to the Word to make sure you are doing it faithfully to God Himself and not according to your own specifications. You want to be uprooting the sin not plucking rotten fruit off the bush**
- C) **Now, this brings us to our second necessity to living a pure life.**
 - D) **You must have a proper perspective and**
- II) **Necessity #2: That is to have the proper provisions**
- A) **Like doing an activity such as (camping, climbing, scuba diving, sky diving) all of these require you bring the proper equipment, the same is true for living a pure life: you must have the proper provisions to make it a successful trip. And I see three provisions listed in this passage**
 - 1) **The right motivation, right teaching, and right response**
 - B) **#1 You must have the right motivation [R. 10–11]**

- 1) **In both verses ten & eleven the heart are mentioned. This is not the organ of love as we might associate with it, but one writes “the heart in the bible very frequently stands for ‘the seat of [man’s] rational functions’,” and another writes “from the heart comes planning, and volition, and religious and moral conduct is rooted in the heart.”¹**

- 2) **As we see v. 10 opening, the psalmist is motivated by striving to do his part in living a pure life.**
 - (a) **“I have sought you” I seek you out” conveys the idea of “caring for, searching for, and being intent on” like investigating. It would be akin to saying “I am letting every thought and action of mine be put under the microscope to make sure it is in the same path as you God”**

 - (b) **And while the Psalmist is 100% striving after a pure life he also knows he is 100% dependent upon the Lord to accomplish this. This is the second part of the verse**

- 3) **Do not let me stray from Your commandments. (v. 10b)**

¹ Zemek, George; The Word of God in the Child of God; p. 89

(a) The verb here is a causative verb and the Psalmist is pleading to the Lord to make sure he isn't lead astray.

(i) Do not cause me to be led astray

(ii) "Prov 28:10 "He who leads the upright astray in an evil way will himself fall into his own pit, but the blameless will inherit good."

(iii) In v. 6, the psalmist was not ashamed when he looked upon God's commandments and here he won't be mislead in walking a pure life by staying near to the Lord's commands.

4) The other motivation here is valuing the Lord's promises over anything else. Your word I have treasured in my heart, (v. 11a)

(a) I don't know about you, but I am a sucker for treasure hunting. There is something exhilarating and mysterious about digging up that which is rare and beautiful. It is even more so desirable and fascinating to possess that treasure. I read an article today which stated they are going to auction off a single baseball card which is expected to go between 10m-12m dollars! My heart starts racing thinking, "what if I was the guy who found that at a garage sale?"

- (i) **One thing I do understand is that treasure is not easy to come by, it is hard work**
 - (b) **Here is what Jesus says about treasure: Matt 6:19–21**
 - (i) **There is bad treasure and there is good treasure**
 - (ii) **The psalmist is describing the good treasure [P]**
- 5) **So what is the outcome the psalmist longs for by desiring, seeking, storing, and admiring the Word (promises) in his life?**
- (a) **Here's his purpose that I may not sin against You. (v. 11b)**
 - (b) **The psalmist wants to value and gain equity in the one commodity which is of eternal value. That is the Word of God!**
- 6) **The Psalmist very way of living a pure life is motivated by laying his life before the Lord.**
- (a) **[Q] Notice what is missing in this pursuit of the Lord?**
 - (i) **How hard the road might be**
 - (ii) **What he might have to give up**
 - (iii) **Life is no longer going to be fun**

(iv) **I am going to miss out**

(v) **I don't get to do what I want to do anymore**

(vi) **It is not fair**

(b) **He is accepting the call and embracing the challenge because his life isn't motivated by self-preservation or self-gratification but it is motivated by living a pure life before the Lord.**

7) **So the first provision needed to living a pure life is the right motivation**

8) **The next provision is...**

c) **#2 You must have the right teaching**

1) **And this one seems almost redundant or self-affirming but you would be surprised how many people trust in something other than God himself. And to have the right teaching you must have the right teacher.**

2) **And the Psalmist teaching comes from having the perfect teacher [R. 12a]**