

1 Peter 1:22

²² Since you have purified your souls by obedience to the truth so that you have a genuine love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from a pure heart.

Berean Study Bible

²² You purified your souls by obedience to the Truth,
so, you have genuine affection out from a clean heart.
Love one another fervently.

My own translation

1

1 Peter 1:22

What I did. "obey the truth"
What I have. "have... have... have"
What I do. "love one another deeply"
What I use. "a pure heart"

2

1 Peter 1:22

Where we are now. 22a "purified your souls"
How we got here. 22b "obedience to the truth"
Where we are going. 22c "genuine love... deeply"
How we will get there. 22d "a pure heart"

3

Focus on quality rather than quantity. 1 Peter 1:22

My private quality. 22a "pure soul"
My personal quality. 22b "obey truth"
My public quality. 22c "love brothers"
My passionate quality. 22d "deeply"
My pure quality. 22e "pure heart"

4

Health and wellbeing. 1 Peter 1:22

Inner health.

What I have. 22a “purified soul”

How I got it. 22b “obedience to the truth”

What results. 22c “genuine love”

Outer wellbeing.

Be consistent. 22d “love one another deeply”

5

Blessed to be a blessing. 1 Peter 1:22

I am blessed. 1:22a

I am blessed on the inside. “purified your souls”

I am blessed by my choice. “obedience to the Truth”

I am blessed with a new nature. “have genuine affection”

I am blessed in a fresh place. “out from a clean heart”

To be a blessing. 1:22b

I bless with God’s love. “Love”

I bless God’s people. “one another”

I bless with God’s heart. “fervently”

6

Outside in; inside out. 1 Peter 1:22

From the outside, in. 1:22a

I am forgiven of my sins. “purified your souls”

I am on a better pathway. “obedience to the Truth”

I now have a new nature. “have genuine affection”

I am blessed in a fresh place. “out from a clean heart”

From the inside, out. 1:22b

I have a new action. “Love”

I have a new focus. “one another”

I have a new enthusiasm. “fervently”

7

So far, so good. 1 Peter 1:22

Looking back over where I have come from.

My soul has been purified. "souls have been purified"
My mind has been controlled. "obedience to the Truth"
My relationships have been cleansed. "genuine affection"

Looking forward to where I am going

I move forward with God's nature. "love"
I move forward with God's people. "one another"
I move forward with God's heart. "fervently"

8

Taming the savage beast within. 1 Peter 1:22

Imagery of either a circus lion-tamer, or a horse-whisperer.

We tear down arguments and every presumption set up against the knowledge of God; and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5

Taming the wild beast.

My rebellious soul has been purified. "purified your souls"
My unruly mind has been controlled. "obedience to the Truth"
My unwholesome relationships have been cleansed. "genuine affection"

Training the tame beast.

There is strength in the heart. "love"
There is safety in the herd. "one another"
There is satisfaction in the help. "fervently"

9

How to go through life rejoicing. 1 Peter 1:22

Celebration of my new position.

My soul has been renewed. "purified your souls"
My mind has been redirected. "obedience to the Truth"
My heart has been reoriented. "affection out from a clean heart"

Commitment to my next position.

I must live with God's attitude. "Love"
I must live for others' benefit. "one another"
I must live in positive enthusiasm. "fervently"

10

Haves and Have-nots. 1 Peter 1:22

What we have. 22-23a

We have purified souls. 22a “have purified your souls”

We have genuine love. 22b “have a genuine love”

We have new life. 23a “have been born again”

What we have not. 22b

We have not deep love. 22b “love one another deeply”

11

There, and back again. 1 Peter 1:22-23

(Also the memoir of Bilbo Baggins, published as ‘The Hobbit’)

So far, so good. 1:22

Perfect start. 22a “purified, by obedience”

Excellent progress. 22b “genuine affection... clean heart”

Good advance. 22c “Love one another fervently”

Full circle. 22-23

Essential start. 23a “You have been born again”

Excellent resources. 23b “not perishable... living”

Enduring progress. 23c “abiding Word of God”

12

Pilgrim’s Progress. 1 Peter 1:22-25

An allegory, written by John Bunyan in 1678 while in prison.

Personal progress. 22a “purified your souls”

Practical progress. 22b “Love one another fervently”

Purified progress. 23 “You have been born again”

Parable of progress. 24 “all flesh is like grass”

Power for progress. 25 “the Word of the Lord stands forever”

13

The day after I am saved. 1 Peter 1:22-25

What I got. 22a “purified your souls”

What I did. 22b “obedience to the Truth”

What I do. 22c “love one another deeply”
What happened. 23 “You have been born again”
Why it happened. 24 “all flesh is like grass”
How it happened. 25 “the word of the Lord stands forever”

14

You have a higher calling. 1 Peter 1:22-25

Astronaut – Space theme

Lift off. 22a “purified your souls”
Second Stage. 22b “Love one another fervently”
Orbit achieved. 23 “You have been born again”
Houston, we have a problem. 24 “all flesh is like grass”
Safely home. 25 “the word of the Lord stands forever”

Other possible titles

Next steps into good.
Best before the ‘use by’ date.
Trace your life’s trajectory.
What the Truth will do for you.
Is honesty really the best policy?
This is how you love unlovely people.
I love you, but I don’t like you.
“Heart” and “Soul”.

Commentary

You **purified** your souls by obedience to the Truth
so, you have genuine **love**¹ out from a **pure** heart.
Love² one another fervently.

purified: ἀγνίζω [Strong's 48] meaning ‘to purify, cleanse from defilement’ often with ceremonial connotations. A verb occurring 7 times in the New Testament, but only here in 1 & 2 Peter.

This word is not a cognate of, but it is related to, ἅγιος [Strong's 40] ‘holy, sanctified’.

pure: καθαρός [Strong's 2513] meaning clean, pure, unstained, without admixture, guiltless, innocent. Usually translated ‘clean’. There are 27 occurrences in the New Testament but only here in 1 & 2 Peter. This word is the basis of our English word, cathartic.

The word first occurs in the New Testament in Matthew 5:8 'Blessed are the **pure** in heart'.

Love¹: φιλαδελφία [Strong's 5360] meaning 'brotherly love, love of Christian brethren, love among family or friends'. A noun occurring 6 times in the New Testament, including 4 times in 1 & 2 Peter, of which this is the first. Occurrences are: 1 Peter 1:22, 3:8, 2 Peter 1:7, 1:7.

Love²: ἀγαπάω [Strong's 25] a word meaning 'love' of the purest, highest form. A verb occurring including 5 occurrences in 1 & 2 Peter. Its cognate noun occurs 4 times in 1 & 2 Peter. Its cognate adjective occurs 8 times in 1 & 2 Peter.

Music and songs

Songs about purity, 22a

Change my heart, O God. 482

I give You my heart. TS 67

Make me like You. SiS 281

Purify my heart... Refiner's fire. 657

Start a fire. Ot 39

Songs about obedience to the Truth, 22a

When we walk with the Lord... Trust and obey. H

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God. SiS 96

This little light of mine. Ot 83

Songs about loving one another, 22b

Friends (M W Smith).

Friends, all in the family (Petra).

I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God (Gaither).

Let there be love shared among us. SiS 322

Thank You, Lord, for my special friends. Ot 56

They will know we are Christians by our love. Ot 25

True friend (Twila Paris).

We are the Lord's own family.

Questions, with no wrong answers, for personal reflection or groups.

1. My soul is the source of my thinking, feeling, and personality. What does it mean to have "purified your souls"?
2. "Obedience to the Truth" is found in John 14:6, John 8:31-32, Colossians 1:5, and Ephesians 4:24. So, what is the Truth that I am to obey?

3. What is the difference between 'relationship' and 'fellowship'; and why do we need both?
 4. Psalm 51 is a long prayer. Focus on v10-12. What is God's part, and what is my part in having a "clean heart"? What part do other people play in helping me have a clean heart?
 5. 1 Peter 1:22 includes one action we are to undertake. What is its connection to the early statements in this verse?
 6. Why is Godly love (agape) "one another" centred; and how do we do it "fervently"?
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