

A LIVING FAITH Lesson on PURITY

Theme: Preparing our hearts for Christ's return

Object: A mop and pail, window cleaner, sponges, and other cleaning supplies

Scripture: **Matthew 24:30-31 (RSV or KJV)**
Matthew 5:8 (RSV or KJV)



Paree Looy!

My mother was a very good housekeeper. You could come to our house at any time and never find a thing out of place. There was never a bed unmade or a dirty dish in the sink. You would never find clothes on the floor or a dirty sock hiding under the bed at our house! There was a place for everything - and everything was in its place.

Even though our house always looked just fine to me, I can still remember what it was like around our house when my mother found out that company was coming. She brought out the broom, the mop and pail, sponges, window cleaner, bathroom cleaner, dust rags, and furniture polish. Then she called me and assigned me the job that I was to do. When I was finished, mother always checked to make sure that not a speck of dirt or dust remained.

Can you imagine what it would have been like around our house if we had been expecting a visit from a king? Well, that is what I want to talk to you about this morning. A king is coming—not just any king—the King of Kings!

Long before the Son of God came on Earth, a prophet named Isaiah said that before Jesus would be born, there would be one who would come before him to prepare the way for him. His name was John. The Bible tells us that John was like a voice, crying in the wilderness, telling people that Jesus was coming and that they needed to prepare for his coming.

When John told people that they needed to prepare for the coming of Jesus, he wasn't talking about a clean house. He was talking about a clean, **pure** heart. He told the people that they needed to confess their sins, repent, and be baptized so that they would be ready to meet the coming King.

This Sunday, the Sunday of Advent, our Priests remind us that the Son of God, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is coming back. Are we ready for His return? Are the rooms of our hearts and minds mopped, dusted and cleaned from bad thoughts, anger and grudge, and ready for the coming of the King? Are our hearts **pure**?

Let's do it today!

Heavenly Father, as we look forward to our Lord's return, help us to make sure that our hearts and minds are clean, **pure**, and ready for Him. Amen.