

Lesson 3 Trust but Verify

A Sick Heart.

Jeremiah 17:9–10 (NASB95)

⁹ “The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it? ¹⁰ “I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds.

Jeremiah 17:9–10 (NLT)

⁹ “The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is? ¹⁰ But I, the Lord, search all hearts and examine secret motives. I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions deserve.”

Phileo love has to do with feelings, affections, and motives. For this reason, one does well to practice wisdom in relating with others.

More Than What Meets The Eye Or Ear.

Biblical counsel instructs us to look at the actions of others when assessing their character. Charisma, wit, and charm does not a character make.

Men are not basically good as some would say or think. According to the bible, man’s nature is “wicked”.

See Eph. 2:1-3; Rom. 3:10-18

A Person’s World View.

People are the way they are for many different reasons. People’s worldview influences their principles, morals, and behavior.

1 Corinthians 2:11 (NASB95)

¹¹ For who among men knows the *thoughts* of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the *thoughts* of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 2:11 (TPT)

¹¹ After all, who can really see into a person’s heart and know his hidden impulses except for that person’s spirit? So, it is with God. His thoughts and secrets are only fully understood by his Spirit, the Spirit of God.

A Fool’s Errand.

You nor I can change people because we can’t change hearts. Only God has the power to change a person.

See Mt. 7:16-20 – Fruit never lies!

Proverbs 4:23 (The Living Bible, Paraphrased)

²³ *Above all else, guard your affections.* For they influence everything else in your life.