

The Incurable, Untrustworthy, Desperate Heart of Man

Jeremiah 17:5-11

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Jeremiah 17:5-11 [Legacy Standard Bible]

⁹"The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can know it?

¹⁰"I, Yahweh, search the heart; I test the inmost being, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his deeds.

¹¹"As a partridge that hatches eggs which it has not laid, So is he who makes a fortune, but unjustly; In the midst of his days it will forsake him, And in the end he will be a wicked fool."

Living Sermon Illustrations

Hosea: Called to marry a harlot (Hosea 1)

Ezekiel: 390 days on his left; 40 days on his right (Ezekiel 4:4)

Isaiah: Preached naked and barefoot for three years (Isaiah 20)

Noah: Preacher of righteousness heeded by no one outside of family (Genesis 6-8; Hebrews 11; 2 Peter 2:5)

Jeremiah: Linen waistband/Belt (Jeremiah 13)

Jeremiah 13:6-7 (LSB)

⁶Now it happened that after many days Yahweh said to me,
"Arise, go to the Euphrates and take from there the belt which
I commanded you to hide there."

⁷Then I went to the Euphrates and dug, and I took the belt
from the place where I had hidden it; and behold, the belt was
ruined; it was totally worthless.

Genesis 6:5 (LSB)

⁵Then Yahweh saw that the evil of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Jeremiah 2:12-13 (LSB)

¹²“Be appalled, O heavens, at this, And be horribly afraid, be very devastated,” declares Yahweh.

¹³“For My people have done two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns That can hold no water.

Sermon Outline for Jeremiah 17:5-11

I. The Cursed Man (17:5-6)

A. Descriptions, Fruit, and "Symptoms"

B. His Outcome

II. The Blessed Man (17:7-8)

A. Descriptions, Fruit, and "Symptoms"

B. His Outcome

III. The Determining Factor of the Heart (17:9-11)

A. The Condition of the Human Heart

B. The God Who Judges the Human Heart

C. What the Fool Says... in His Human Heart

Jeremiah 17:5-6 (LSB)

⁵Thus says Yahweh, "Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind
And makes flesh his strength, And whose heart turns away
from Yahweh.

⁶"And he will be like a juniper in the desert And will not see
when prosperity comes, But will dwell in stony wastes in the
wilderness, A land of salt which is not inhabited.

1 Samuel 8:19-20 (LSB)

¹⁹Nevertheless, the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel, and they said, "No, but there shall be a king over us,
²⁰that we also may be like all the nations, that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."

Jeremiah 17:5-6 (LSB)

⁵Thus says Yahweh, "Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind
And makes flesh his strength, And whose heart turns away
from Yahweh.

⁶"And he will be like a juniper in the desert And will not see
when prosperity comes, But will dwell in stony wastes in the
wilderness, A land of salt which is not inhabited.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (LSB)

⁷"Blessed is the man who trusts in Yahweh And whose trust is Yahweh.

⁸"And he will be like a tree planted by the water, That sends forth its roots by a stream And will not fear when the heat comes; But its leaves will be green, And it will not be anxious in a year of drought Nor refrain from yielding fruit.

Jeremiah 17:9-10 (LSB)

⁹"The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can know it?

¹⁰"I, Yahweh, search the heart; I test the inmost being, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his deeds.

Matthew 15:18-20 (LSB)

¹⁸“But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.

¹⁹“For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual immoralities, thefts, false witness, slanders.

²⁰“These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man.”

Jeremiah 17:9-10 (LSB)

⁹"The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can know it?

¹⁰"I, Yahweh, search the heart; I test the inmost being, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his deeds.

Jeremiah 37:15-16 (LSB)

¹⁵Then the officials were angry at Jeremiah and struck him, and they put him in jail in the house of Jonathan the scribe because they had made that house into the prison.

¹⁶For Jeremiah had come into the pit, that is, the vaulted cell; and Jeremiah stayed there many days.

Ezekiel 36:24-28 (LSB)

²⁴“And I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands, and bring you into your own land.

²⁵“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your uncleanness and from all your idols.

²⁶“Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

²⁷“I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to do My judgments.

²⁸“And you will inhabit the land that I gave to your fathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

Galatians 3:13-14 (LSB)

¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”—

¹⁴in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Jeremiah 17:11 (LSB)

¹¹“As a partridge that hatches eggs which it has not laid, So is he who makes a fortune, but unjustly; In the midst of his days it will forsake him, And in the end he will be a wicked fool.”

Psalms 1:1-3 (LSB)

¹How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the way of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

²But his delight is in the law of Yahweh, And in His law he meditates day and night.

³And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.