

Who Can Understand the Heart?

Daniel Israel – 7 10 22

Jeremiah 17:9-10

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,

To give to each person according to his ways,

According to the results of his deeds.

Jeremiah 6:16

Stand by the roads and look,

and ask for the ancient path,

where the good road is and walk in it,

and find rest for your souls.

I. Jeremiah, the watchman!

Jeremiah 6:17

17“And I set watchmen over you, saying, ‘Listen to the sound of the trumpet!’ But they said, ‘We will not listen.’

II. Amend your ways!

Jeremiah 7:1-7

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2“Stand at the gate of the LORD’S house and proclaim there this word, and say, ‘Hear the word of the LORD, all you of Judah, who enter by these gates to worship the LORD!’”

3 This is what the LORD of armies, the God of Israel says: “Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you live in this place.

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4 Do not trust in deceptive words, saying, 'This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.

5 For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly practice justice between a person and his neighbor,

6 if you do not oppress the stranger, the orphan, or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, nor follow other gods to your own ruin,

7 then I will let you live in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.**

III. The house of God has become a den of thieves!

Jeremiah 7:8-11

8 "Behold, you are trusting in deceptive words to no avail.

9 Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, offer sacrifices to Baal, and follow other gods that you have not known,

10 then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, 'We are saved!'—so that you may do all these abominations?

11 Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of robbers in your sight? Behold, I Myself have seen it," declares the LORD.

IV. Don't pray for those who blatantly reject God.

Jeremiah 7:16-18

16 "As for you, do not pray for this people, and do not lift up a cry or prayer for them, and do not plead with Me; for I am not listening to you.

17 Do you not see what they are doing in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

18 The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough to make sacrificial cakes for the queen of heaven; and they pour out drink offerings to other gods in order to provoke Me to anger.

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V. Boast only in the Lord!

Jeremiah 9:23,24

23 This is what the LORD says: "Let no wise man boast of his wisdom, nor let the mighty man boast of his might, nor a rich man boast of his riches;

24 but let the one who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises mercy, justice, and righteousness on the earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD

VI. Don't follow the customs of the pagans!

Jeremiah 10:1-5

1 Hear the word which the LORD speaks to you, house of Israel.

2 This is what the LORD says: "Do not learn the way of the nations, And do not be terrified by the signs of the heavens, Although the nations are terrified by them;

3 For the customs of the peoples are futile; For it is wood cut from the forest, The work of the hands of a craftsman with a cutting tool.

4 "They decorate the idol with silver and gold; They fasten it with nails and hammers So that it will not totter.

5 "They are like a scarecrow in a cucumber field,

And they cannot speak; They must be carried, Because they cannot walk! Do not fear them,

For they can do no harm, Nor can they do any good."

Jeremiah 10:10-12

10 But the LORD is the true God;

He is the living God and the everlasting King.

The earthquakes at His wrath,

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And the nations cannot endure His indignation.

11 This is what you shall say to them: “The gods that did not make the heavens and the earth will perish from the earth and from under these heavens.”

12 It is He who made the earth by His power,

Who established the world by His wisdom;

And by His understanding He has stretched out the heavens.

Jeremiah 10:24

Correct me, LORD, but with justice;

Not with Your anger, or You will bring me to nothing.

VII. The linen undergarment illustration.

Jeremiah 13:1-7

1 This is what the LORD said to me: “Go and buy yourself a linen undergarment and put it around your waist, but do not put it in water.”

2 So I bought the undergarment in accordance with the word of the LORD and put it around my waist.

3 Then the word of the LORD came to me a second time, saying,

4“Take the undergarment that you bought, which is around your waist, and arise, go to the Euphrates and hide it there in a crevice of the rock.”

5 So I went and hid it by the Euphrates, as the LORD had commanded me.

6After many days the LORD said to me, “Arise, go to the Euphrates and take from there the undergarment which I commanded you to hide there.”

7Then I went to the Euphrates and dug, and I took the undergarment from the place where I had hidden it; and behold, the undergarment was ruined, it was completely useless.

Jeremiah 13:8-11

8Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

9“This is what the LORD says: ‘To the same extent I will destroy the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem.

10This wicked people, who refuse to listen to My words, who walk in the stubbornness of their hearts and have followed other gods to serve them

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and to bow down to them, let them be just like this undergarment which is completely useless.

11For as the undergarment clings to the waist of a man, so I made the entire household of Israel and the entire household of Judah cling to Me,' declares the LORD, 'so that they might be My people, for renown, for praise, and for glory; but they did not listen.'

Jeremiah 13:23

23“Can the Ethiopian change his skin, Or the leopard his spots? Then you as well can do good Who are accustomed to doing evil.

VIII. False Prophecy Will be Exposed!

Jeremiah 14:13-15

13But I said, “Oh, Lord GOD! Behold, the prophets are telling them, ‘You will not see a sword, nor will you have famine; on the contrary, I will give you lasting peace in this place.’”

14Then the LORD said to me, “The prophets are prophesying falsehood in My name. I have neither sent them nor commanded them, nor spoken to them; they are prophesying to you a false vision, divination, futility, and the deception of their own minds.

15Therefore this is what the LORD says concerning the prophets who are prophesying in My name, although it was not I who sent them—yet they keep saying: ‘There will be no sword or famine in this land’—by sword and famine those prophets shall meet their end!

Jeremiah 17:5-8

5This is what the LORD says:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind

And makes flesh his strength,

And whose heart turns away from the LORD.

6“For he will be like a bush in the desert,

And will not see when prosperity comes,

But will live in stony wastes in the wilderness,

A land of salt that is not inhabited.

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7“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,

And whose trust is the LORD.

8“For he will be like a tree planted by the water

That extends its roots by a stream,

And does not fear when the heat comes.

But its leaves will be green,

And it will not be anxious in a year of drought,

Nor cease to yield fruit.

IX. Heart is deceitful.

Who can understand it?.

Jeremiah 17:9,10

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,

To give to each person according to his ways,

According to the results of his deeds

Jeremiah 17:14-16

14 Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed;

Save me and I will be saved,

For You are my praise.

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15 Look, they keep saying to me,

“Where is the word of the LORD?

Let it come now!”

16 But as for me, I have not hurried away from being a shepherd following after You,

Nor have I longed for the disastrous day; You Yourself know that the utterance of my lips Was in Your presence.

To conclude -

- Amend your ways
- Boast only in the Lord
- Honor God’s House
- Cling to the Lord, like linen
- Use your talents
- Only Christ can transform our hearts

Acts 2:42 Church