



The Condition of the Human Heart

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Verses 5-6 This is what the Lord says: “Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives.

1. Does this mean that we are “Cursed” a little or cursed a lot?
 - a. The unsaved is cursed a _____ while _____ on the Earth, yet cursed **exponentially** when he enters into eternity.
 - b. The saved are cursed a little while living _____, yet _____ when he enters into eternity.
2. How are we cursed?
 - a. Limited _____, and limited _____
 - b. Stuck _____ of, and _____ from, God’s blessings
3. Why are we cursed?
 - a. Because we put our _____ in ourselves, and other humans, rather than God.

Verses 7-8 “But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

1. “Blessed” also refers to the little blessings that _____ brings as well as the _____ blessing of everlasting life, received from trusting in the Lord for the forgiveness of sin.

2. How are we blessed?
 - a. Our *spiritual sustenance* will be _____ and readily available.
 - b. We will remain spiritually _____ even when the conditions are against us.
 - c. Fear and worry are not part of our _____ spiritual walk.
 - d. We produce spiritual _____ on schedule, according to God's will.

3. Why are we blessed?
 - a. Because we _____ the Lord, and have confidence. (Faith)

Verses 9-10 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?
 "I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."

1. What determines how much blessing and cursing we actually receive?
 - a. _____ you put your trust in.
 - i. You cannot trust your heart (feelings) because it is _____.
 - ii. Your heart makes a _____ deal out of truly _____ stuff,
 - a. Road Rage
 - b. Bitterness - I will never forgive, We're through
 - c. I'm sure that comment was a personal insult, or an attack

And tells you the big stuff is really _____.

 - a. The ten commandments are old and out of step with today
 - b. Accepting sin and acting like it's OK is the loving thing to do
 - c. It's OK to look at a little Porn, or skim money from the till - it's a private thing that won't hurt anyone.
 - d. Everyone is doing it (rioting/looting), so it must be OK
 - iii. You can really only trust **God's Word**, and must have faith in his _____.
 - b. What does God reward? _____
 - i. Deeds are the outpouring, of _____ you are trusting and listening to.

Today's Take Home:

1. Ask yourself if you are feeling more like a bush, stuck in the desert. Alone, isolated, unproductive. OR do you feel like a well-watered tree producing fruit right on schedule.

If it's the bush - Start reviewing the promised of God's Word
Ask God to strengthen your faith in His promises
Eliminate the voices that are causing your heart to sin.
- pride, doubt, worry, insecurity, fear, anger, bitterness, envy ...

If it's the tree - Review the promises of God's Word to that your mind is renewed
Ask God to keep your faith strong and unwavering
Look for others whom you can encourage to trust God as you do