

JEREMIAH 17

God Reveals and Tests
the Hearts



Four Things about Hearts

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 - verses 1-4
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 - ▣ Our heart treasures what God despises
 - ▣ Our heart causes ruin in our lives
 - ▣ Our hard heart brings God's eternal anger

Four Things about Hearts

- ▣ 1. Man's Heart is naturally Hard
- ▣ 2. Man's Heart turns away from God
 - verses 5-7

The Heart turned away from God

TRUSTS IN MAN

- ▣ cursed
- ▣ makes flesh his strength
- ▣ like a shrub in the desert
- ▣ doesn't see when good comes
- ▣ inhabits parched places
- ▣ (no inhabitant to help him)

The Heart turned toward God

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TRUSTS IN GOD

- ▣ blessed
- ▣ hope is in the LORD
- ▣ like a tree by waters
- ▣ doesn't fear when heat comes
- ▣ green, bears fruit
- ▣ (his fruitfulness is a help to others)

Four Things about Hearts

- ▣ 1. Man's Heart is naturally Hard
- ▣ 2. Man's Heart turns away from God
- ▣ 3. Man's Heart is deceitful and desperately wicked
 - verse 9

Deceitful:

Your Heart is out to trick you

Your Heart is cunning and treacherous

You can't trust your heart

“Follow your heart”

- sure, straight to destruction

Above all things - totally

Every part is affected

Deceitful

Desperately wicked: it's incurable

Who can know it?

- Man can't figure out the heart of man

Four Things about Hearts

- ▣ 1. Man's Heart is naturally Hard
- ▣ 2. Man's Heart turns away from God
- ▣ 3. Man's Heart is deceitful and desperately wicked
- ▣ **The LORD tries (tests) the Hearts**
 - **verse 10**

The LORD tries the hearts

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The LORD tries the hearts

1. God searches the inner parts of us, the heart and the mind. We may fool others or ourselves, but we can't fool Him. It's like a teacher, giving a test.

2. He gives us the fruit of our ways, not of what we think about ourselves or get others to think about us. We get just what we deserve from Him. It's like a teacher, giving the grades.



Verse 11 - The Partridge Proverb in 3 easy steps

1. You get riches unjustly
2. The riches leave in a hurry
3. You're a fool (birdbrain?)

Verses 12 and 13

A Better Hope than that partridge
has:

A glorious throne on high
Our sanctuary

Verses 12 and 13

A Better Hope:

A glorious throne on high
Our sanctuary

A not-so-good hope

Written in the earth



Jeremiah prays for personal deliverance

Verses 14-18

He knows that if he is to be saved, God has to do it.

Jeremiah pointed to

1. his dependence on God for healing and salvation
2. his faithfulness to his ministry
3. the fact that he did not desire the evil that was coming
4. the fruit of his lips
5. the fact that he was seeking God for refuge from a deserved destruction

THE SABBATH TEST

verses 19-23

Why the Sabbath?

1. It was an external commandment
2. It was a community commandment
3. They could show improvement
– v. 23
4. The Sabbath is a time-bomb of importance directed to us.

THE SABBATH TEST

The Grading

Passing grade verses 24-26

Blessings for heeding God.

1. The good blessings of God would continue v 25
2. God would be praised. v 26

THE SABBATH TEST

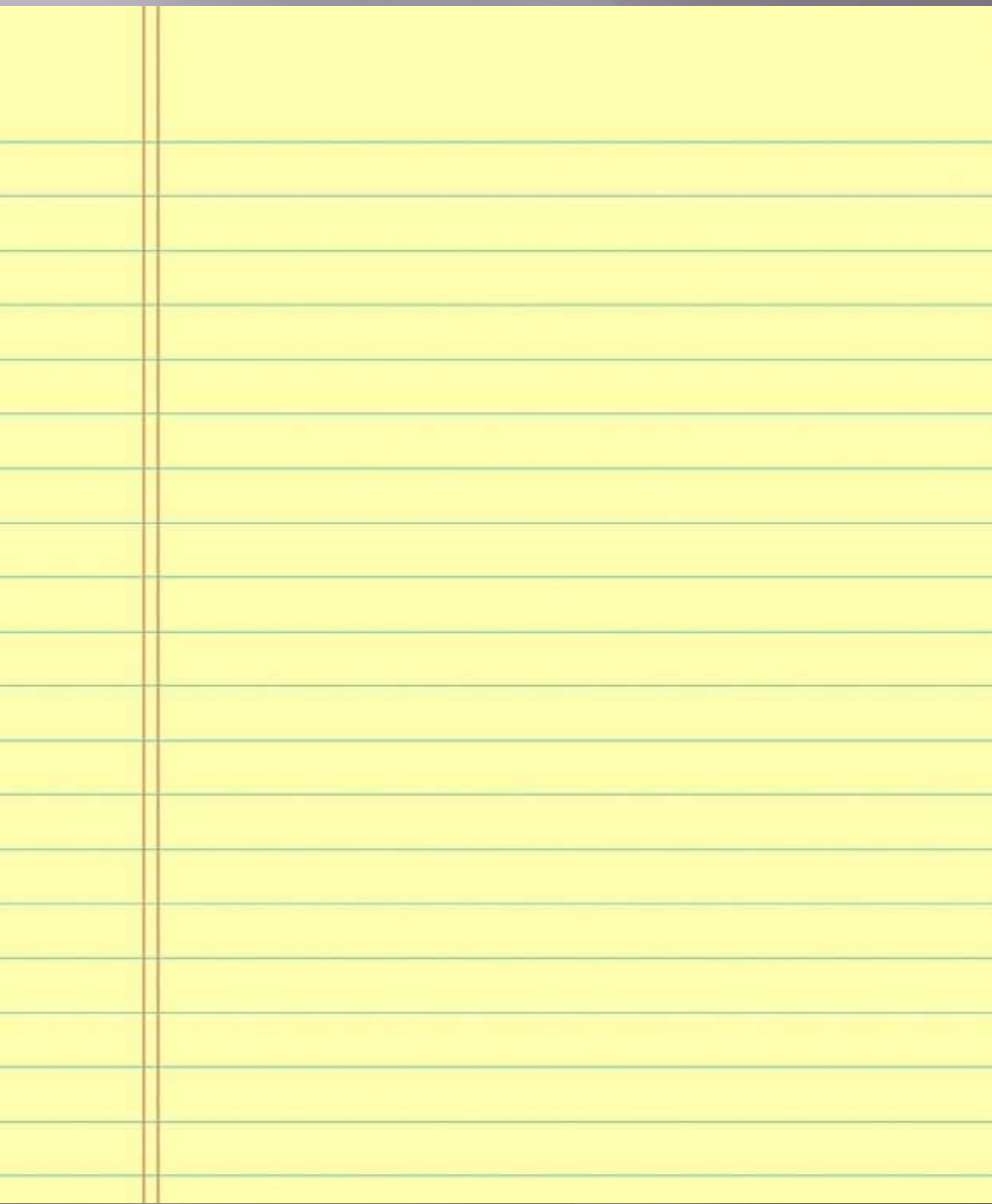
The Grading

Failing grade verse 27

Curses for not heeding God

1. Destruction of the things God had given them
2. No end to the destruction.

(Note: They failed the test.)



THE SABBATH

A PRE-LOADED COMMANDMENT

It represents a finished work

Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, ... For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Exodus 20:9-11

THE SABBATH

A PRE-LOADED COMMANDMENT

It represents freedom from slavery

Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, ...

You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

THE SABBATH

A PRE-LOADED COMMANDMENT

It represents atonement from sin

For on this day shall atonement be made for you to cleanse you. You shall be clean before the LORD from all your sins.

It is a Sabbath of solemn rest to you, and you shall afflict yourselves; it is a statute forever.

Leviticus 16:30-31

THE SABBATH

A PRE-LOADED COMMANDMENT

It represents the Lord's sanctifying

Speak to the people of Israel and say,
'Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths,
for this is a sign between me and you
throughout your generations, that you may
know that I, the LORD, sanctify you.'

Exodus 31:13

THE SABBATH

A PRE-LOADED COMMANDMENT

It represents a perpetual covenant

Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: ...

Exodus 31:16-17

THE SABBATH

A PRE-LOADED COMMANDMENT

Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.

These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

Colossians 2:16-17

THE SABBATH

A FULFILLED FORESHADOWING

THE SABBATH

A FULFILLED FORESHADOWING

It represents a finished work

So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the
people of God,

for whoever has entered God's rest has also
rested from his works as God did from his.

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, ...

Hebrews 4:9-11

THE SABBATH

A FULFILLED FORESHADOWING

It represents freedom from slavery

Whoever commmits sin is the slave of sin. ...

If the Son makes you free, you will be
free indeed.”

John 8:34, 36

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm
therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke
of slavery.

Galatians 5:1

THE SABBATH

A FULFILLED FORESHADOWING

It represents atonement from sin

We rejoice in God through Jesus Christ,
by whom we have received the atonement.”

Romans 5:11

THE SABBATH

A FULFILLED FORESHADOWING

It represents the Lord's sanctifying

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:11

THE SABBATH

A FULFILLED FORESHADOWING

It represents a perpetual covenant

He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Hebrews 9:12

THE SABBATH

PART OF A NEW COVENANT

And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:26

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33 *and* Hebrews 8:10