

## Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 17:5–9 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

### 1) Cursed vs. Blessed

Jeremiah 17:5 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup>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.

Jeremiah 17:7 (NIV)

<sup>7</sup>“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.

### 2) Two trees

Jeremiah 17:6 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup>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.

Jeremiah 17:8 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup>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.”

### 3) The root impacts the fruit

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup>The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Jeremiah 17:6a (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes.

Jeremiah 17:8b (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> ..... It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

4) The cure for a deceptive heart

Jeremiah 17:14 (NIV)

<sup>14</sup> Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.