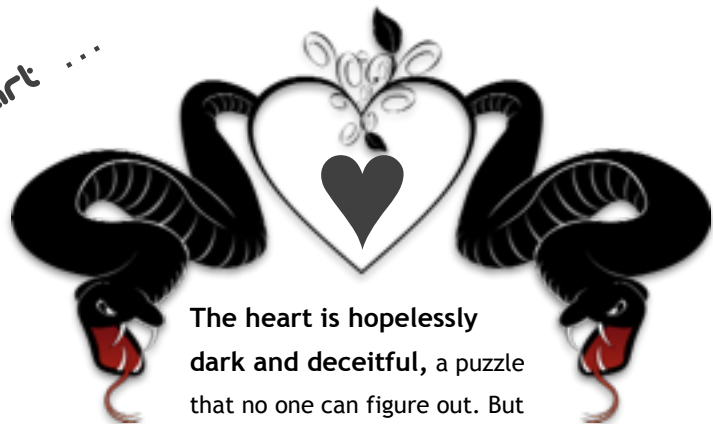


The heart ...



The heart is hopelessly dark and deceitful, a puzzle that no one can figure out. But I, GOD, search the heart and examine the mind. I get to the heart of the human. I get to the root of things. I treat them as they really are, not as they pretend to be (Jeremiah 17:9-10 The Message).

Who can know it?

The fear of the LORD ...

- Our absolute starting point.

The **fear of the LORD** is the **beginning** of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever! (Psalm 111:10 ESV)

The **fear of the LORD** is the **beginning** of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Proverbs 1:7 ESV)

The **fear of the LORD** is the **beginning** of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. (Proverbs 9:10 ESV)

REVERENCE

OUR HEART
IS ONLY
BROUGHT
INTO
SUBMISSION
BEFORE
THE
THRONE
OF
GOD!



- The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is (Jeremiah 17:9 NLT)?

YES NO

1) Do I have an advantage because I have a Christian background?

- Having a background of biblical faith is a huge advantage, 3:1-2.

YES NO

2) Does this mean that I will be “saved”?

- Not everyone is faithful to their faith, 3:3-8.
- This is our problem, not God’s.
- Unfaithfulness does not nullify faithfulness.

YES NO

3) Am I better off before God because of my faith tradition?

- Everyone is under sin, 3:9-17, cf. Galatians 3:22, Joshua 10:24.
- There is no fear of God before their eyes, 3:18.