

Jeremiah 17:1-4

Sin is engraved on the tablet of our heart.

Heat - **Thorns** - Cross - Fruit

God changes us in the middle
of the toughest challenges

Heat - **Thorns** - Cross - Fruit

From Paul David Tripp, “How People Change”

Heat: Trials, pressures, temptations, and difficulty surround our lives.

Thorns: We respond in sinful ways to what we face in life. We have inner reasons for our sin.

Cross: God meets us in our sin with His heart-transforming grace.

Fruit: We respond in new ways to our old difficulties as our hearts are transformed.

Heat - **Thorns** - Cross - Fruit

Christ's
Healing
Agenda a
New
Growth
Experience

When we experience Christ,
we experience healing and
we experience new growth.

How do I progress...

In Relationship 



With God



With One Another



With the Lost



Heat - **Thorns** - Cross - Fruit

The **sin** of Judah is written down with an iron stylus;
Jeremiah 17:1 With a diamond point it is engraved upon the
tablet of their heart

And on the horns of their altars,
2 As they remember their children,

Sin *Surrender*

So they remember their altars and their Asherim

By green trees on the high hills.

- A major theme is the corruption of the heart. (v. 1, 5, 9)
- Like Judah, our sin is written on our hearts.
- The Asherim was the distraction of the day.

Heat - **Thorns** - Cross - Fruit

Jeremiah 17:3 O mountain of Mine in the countryside,
I will give over your wealth and all your treasures for booty,
Your high places for **sin** throughout your borders.

4 And you will, even of yourself, let go of your inheritance

That I gave you;

And I will make you serve your enemies

In the land which you do not know;

For you have kindled a fire in My anger

Which will burn forever.

- Judah let go of its inheritance choosing sin, rejecting God.
- Sin is vicious if you think of God's anger burning forever.

Heat - **Thorns** - Cross - Fruit

“God never promised that His children would escape a fallen world. In His wisdom, He has chosen for us to live in the middle of its brokenness... We are all somehow touched every day by the fall. We shouldn't be surprised when suffering and difficulty come our way; in fact, we should probably be surprised when they don't.” p. 101 How People Change

“The Bible speaks of a God who comforts people in the middle of genuine difficulties in a sin-stained world.” p. 103

Heat - **Thorns** - Cross - Fruit

“The Bible is very different in the way it looks at life. It always finds the person in the middle of the situation and focuses on what the person does. Scripture wants more than an accurate picture of my circumstances. It calls me to focus on what I am doing in the middle of it all.” p. 110 How People Change

“As you rest in His love, you will learn about the heart behind your responses so that you can grow in the faith, hope and love to which you were called. The Heat will remain because it’s a fallen world and we still need to change... His grace is always present and always sufficient.” p. 115-116

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Practical Application:

- Pay attention to Judah's sin and failure.
- Accept the reality of HEAT: trials, pressures, difficulties.
- Look in the mirror to see your sin.
- Look in The Word to see your Savior-King.
- “When life doesn't seem to be working because the Heat is too great, run to your Lord and not away from Him.” p. 105