

A Tree Planted by the River (Jeremiah 17: 5-18)

- Bible teaches a person who trusts in God is like a tree planted by a river
- Whatever season of life God's child is going through he will bear fruit
- This passage teaches us that but so also do the psalms – Psalm 1:3

I. The Peril in Trusting in Self

- Scripture warns cursed is the man who doesn't trust God (v 5): Three ways
 1. Loneliness: v.6
 2. Poverty: v.11
 3. Death: v.13

II. Planted by the Waters

- In contrast the man who trusts the Lord is blessed by the Lord. How so?
- He is like a tree planted by the waters (17: 7-8a)
- He does not wither when trials come his way, he endures, overcomes
- Unlike false shepherds – Jeremiah was faithful in the heat (17:16)

III. The Heart of the Issue is an Issue of the Heart

- The heart is deceitful & desperately wicked: who can understand it (17:9)
- “Heart is deceitful above all things” “I the Lord search the heart (17:10)

IV. Save Me, O Lord

“Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for You *are* my praise” (v. 14).

- The incurable heart's prayer for a cure, a cure only God can bring
- The Christian has been cured in his heart by Christ (Romans 10:10a)