

## Check The Roots

### Jeremiah 17:7–8 (KJV)

*“Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.”*

#### I.

Some roots are weakened.

A weak root is no longer drawing from its source. Still planted, but no longer pulling.

Consider: *2 Chronicles 14:11 and 16:1-3*

King Asa. A million men: he prayed (14:11). One fortress: he had a plan (16:1–3).

Same king. Same God. Different trust.

The plan worked, but the purpose was lost (16:7).

### 2 Chronicles 16:9

*“The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”*

Whatever you are dealing with, bring it back to the water.

The water has not dried up. The river has not moved. The fountain is still flowing.

#### II.

Some roots are shallow.

Everything that grows above ground places a demand on what is developing beneath the surface.

Hear the order of Jeremiah 17:8: Roots then Fruit.

There must be formation before responsibility and visibility.

Do not let your rise outrun your roots.

**God often deepens our roots before increasing our fruit.**

### III.

Some roots are blocked.

A blocked root is not a dead root. It just cannot reach the water. Something big is in the way.

**A blockage is whatever you love and trust more than Jesus.**

Consider: *Matthew 19:22 and John 6:9-13*

Two young men. A ruler held on and walked away empty (Matt. 19:22).

A boy handed over his food and watched it become a miracle (John 6:9–13).

**What's between my roots and the deep water?**

Whatever it is, it has to...MOVE!