

# Jeremiah 13:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.

## Analysis

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This verse specifies the sins: 'This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.' The indictment has three elements: refusing to hear (me'anim lishmoa), following stubborn hearts (sheriruth libbam), and serving other gods. These summarize covenant violation: rejecting revelation, following self, pursuing idols. The conclusion: 'shall be as this girdle'—worthless, ruined, discarded. Israel's potential intimacy with God becomes worthless corruption.

## Historical Context

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These three accusations appear throughout Jeremiah: refusing to hear (5:21, 7:13, 26), stubborn heart (3:17, 7:24, 9:14), and serving other gods (1:16, 5:19, 11:10). The three-fold description comprehensively covers their failure: rejecting God's word, following their own desires, worshipping idols. The outcome—uselessness—is the consequence of corrupted relationship.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

### Study Questions

1. How do the three accusations—refusing to hear, stubborn heart, serving other gods—comprehensively describe covenant violation?
2. What makes corrupt relationship 'good for nothing' despite original potential?

### Interlinear Text

people	H2088	This evil	which refuse	to hear	H853	my words	which walk
H5971		H7451	H3987	H8085		H1697	H1980
in the imagination	H8307	of their heart	H3820	which walk	H310	after	other
to serve	H5647	them and to worship	H7812	H1992	H1961	them shall even be as this girdle	H232
לְפָנָים:      לֹא      אֲשֶׁר      בְּזַהַר	H2088	H834	H3808	which is good	H3605		
			H6743				

### Additional Cross-References

**Jeremiah 16:12** (Evil): And ye have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, ye walk every one after the imagination of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me:

**Jeremiah 9:14** (Parallel theme): But have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them:

**Numbers 14:11** (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

**Acts 7:51** (Parallel theme): Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

**Jeremiah 3:17** (Evil): At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.

**Jeremiah 13:7** (Parallel theme): Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hid it: and, behold, the girdle was marred, it was profitable for nothing.

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