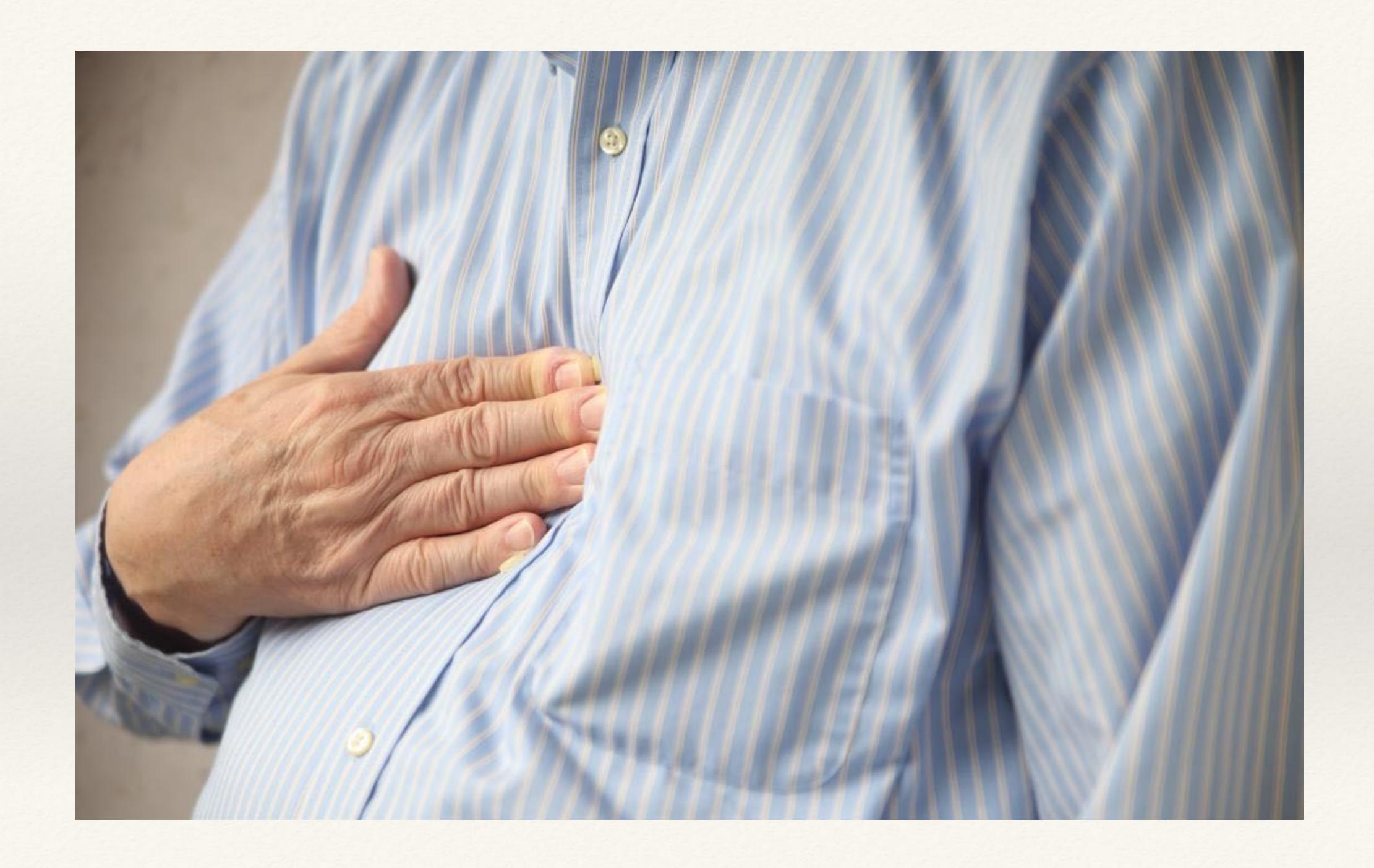
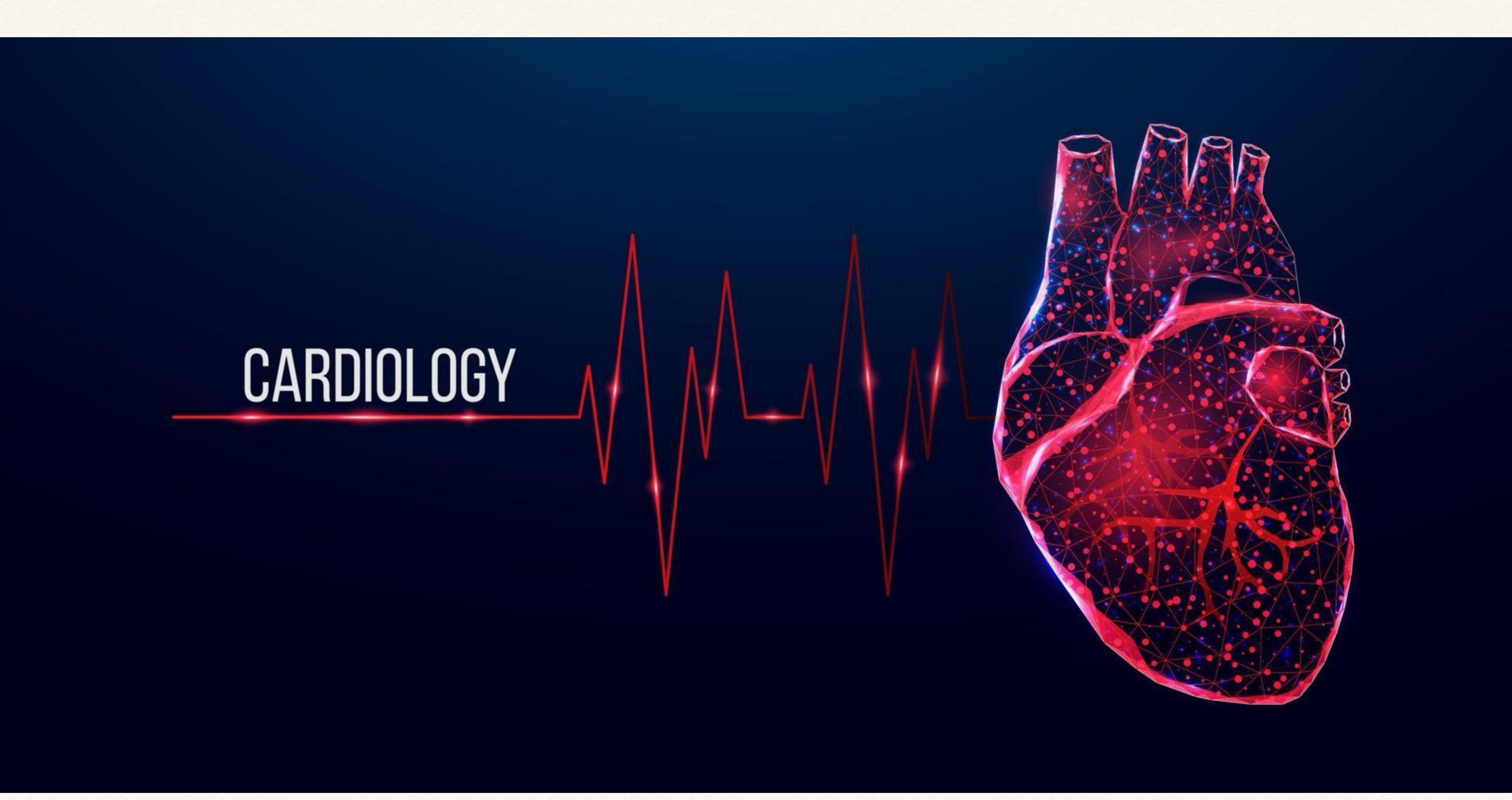
Matthew 15:1-20

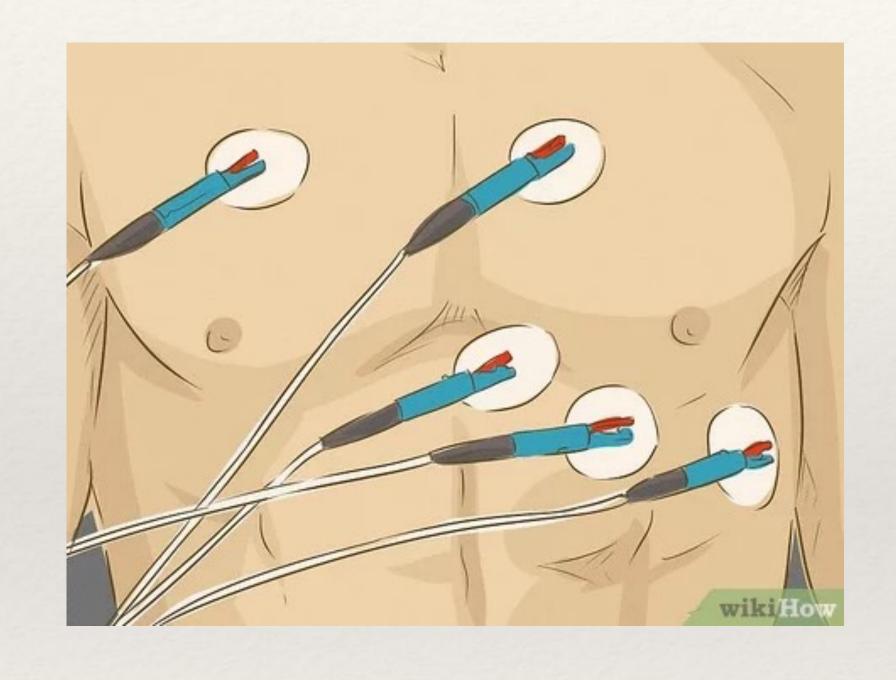
The Heart of the Problem or

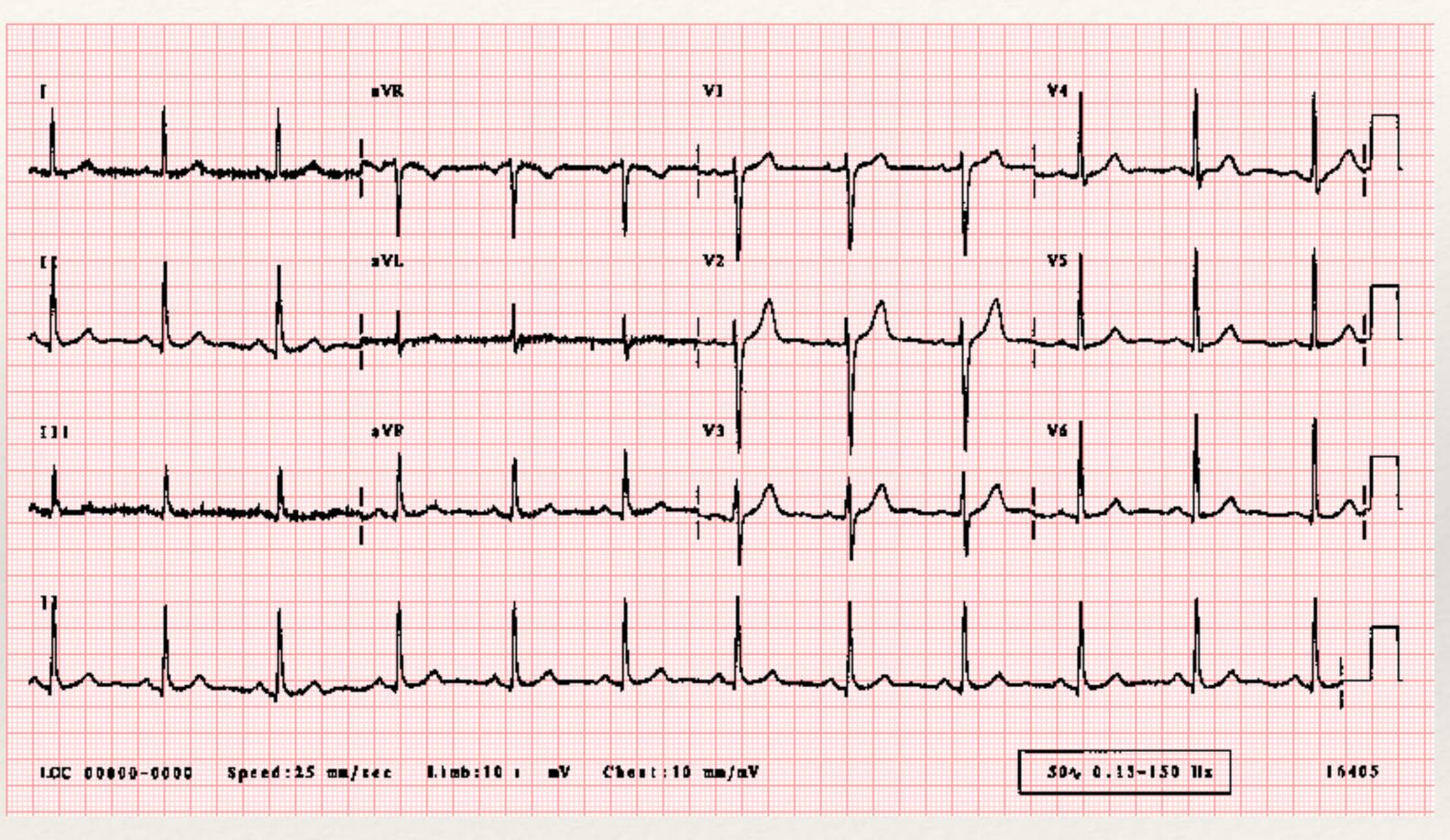
The Problem of the Heart







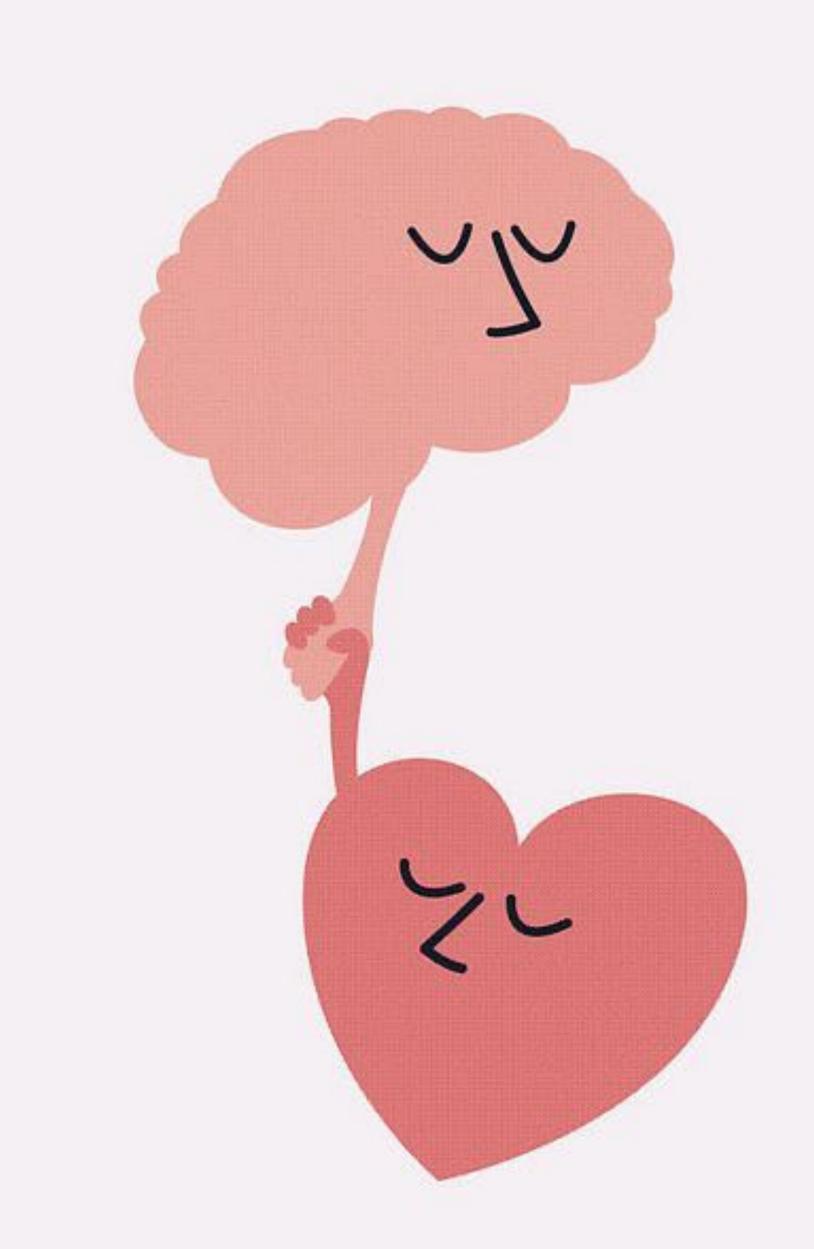








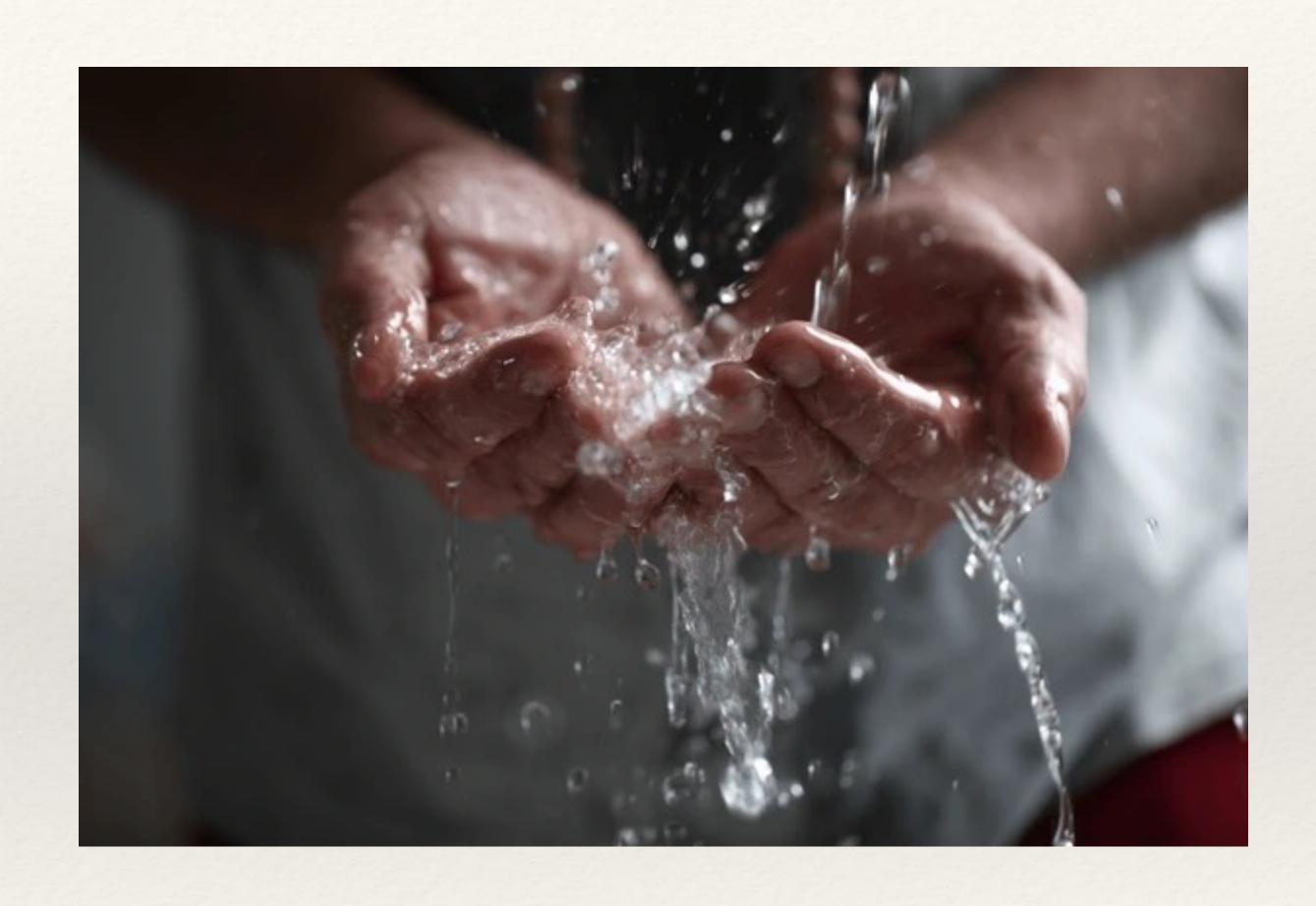






Matthew 15:1-2 NLT

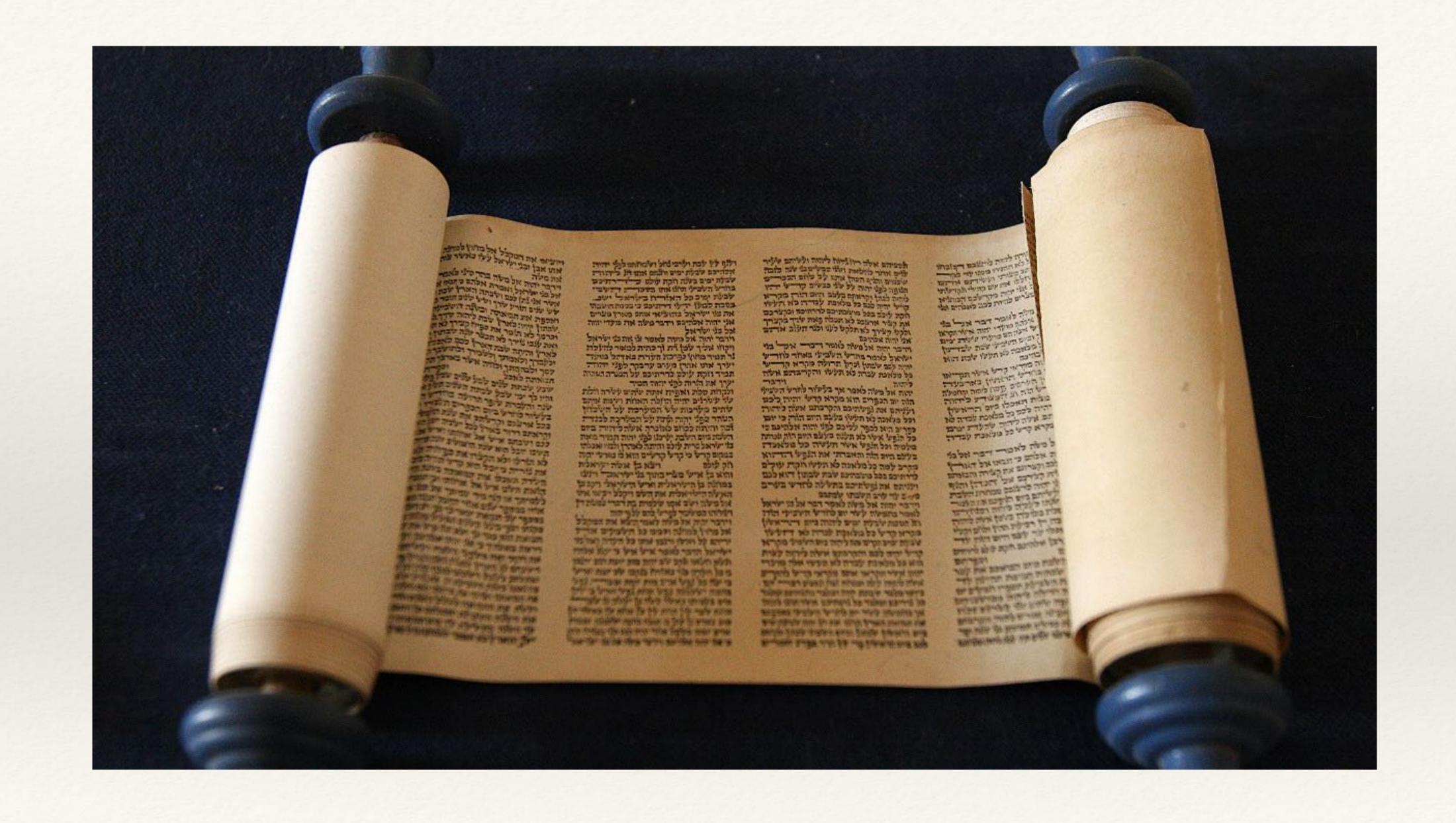
Some Pharisees and teachers of religious law now arrived from Jerusalem to see Jesus. They asked him, "Why do your disciples disobey our age-old tradition? For they ignore our tradition of ceremonial hand washing before they eat."



Psalm 24:3-6 NLT

Who may climb the mountain of the LORD?
Who may stand in his holy place?
Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies.

They will receive the LORD's blessing and have a right relationship with God their saviour. Such people may seek you and worship in your presence, O God of Jacob.





One day some Pharisees and teachers of religious law arrived from Jerusalem to see Jesus. They noticed that some of his disciples failed to follow the Jewish ritual of hand washing before eating. (The Jews, especially the Pharisees, do not eat until they have poured water over their cupped hands, as required by their ancient traditions. Similarly, they don't eat anything from the market until they immerse their hands in water. This is but one of many traditions they have clung to—such as their ceremonial washing of cups, pitchers, and kettles.)

Jesus replied, "And why do you, by your traditions, violate the direct commandments of God? For instance, God says, 'Honour your father and mother,' and 'Anyone who speaks disrespectfully of father or mother must be put to death.' But you say it is all right for people to say to their parents, 'Sorry, I can't help you. For I have vowed to give to God what I would have given to you.' In this way, you say they don't need to honour their parents. And so you cancel the word of God for the sake of your own tradition.

You *hypocrites!* Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote, 'These people honour me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me.

Their worship is a farce,

for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God."

Then Jesus called to the crowd to come and hear. "Listen," he said, "and try to understand. It's not what goes into your mouth that defiles you; you are defiled by the words that come out of your mouth."

Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you realize you offended the Pharisees by what you just said?"

Jesus replied, "Every plant not planted by my heavenly Father will be uprooted, so ignore them. They are blind guides leading the blind, and if one blind person guides another, they will both fall into a ditch."



(In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.)

Mark 7:19 NIV

John 9:39-41 NKJV

And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."

Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?"

Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains.



1 Corinthians 8:1 NASB

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes one conceited, but love edifies people.

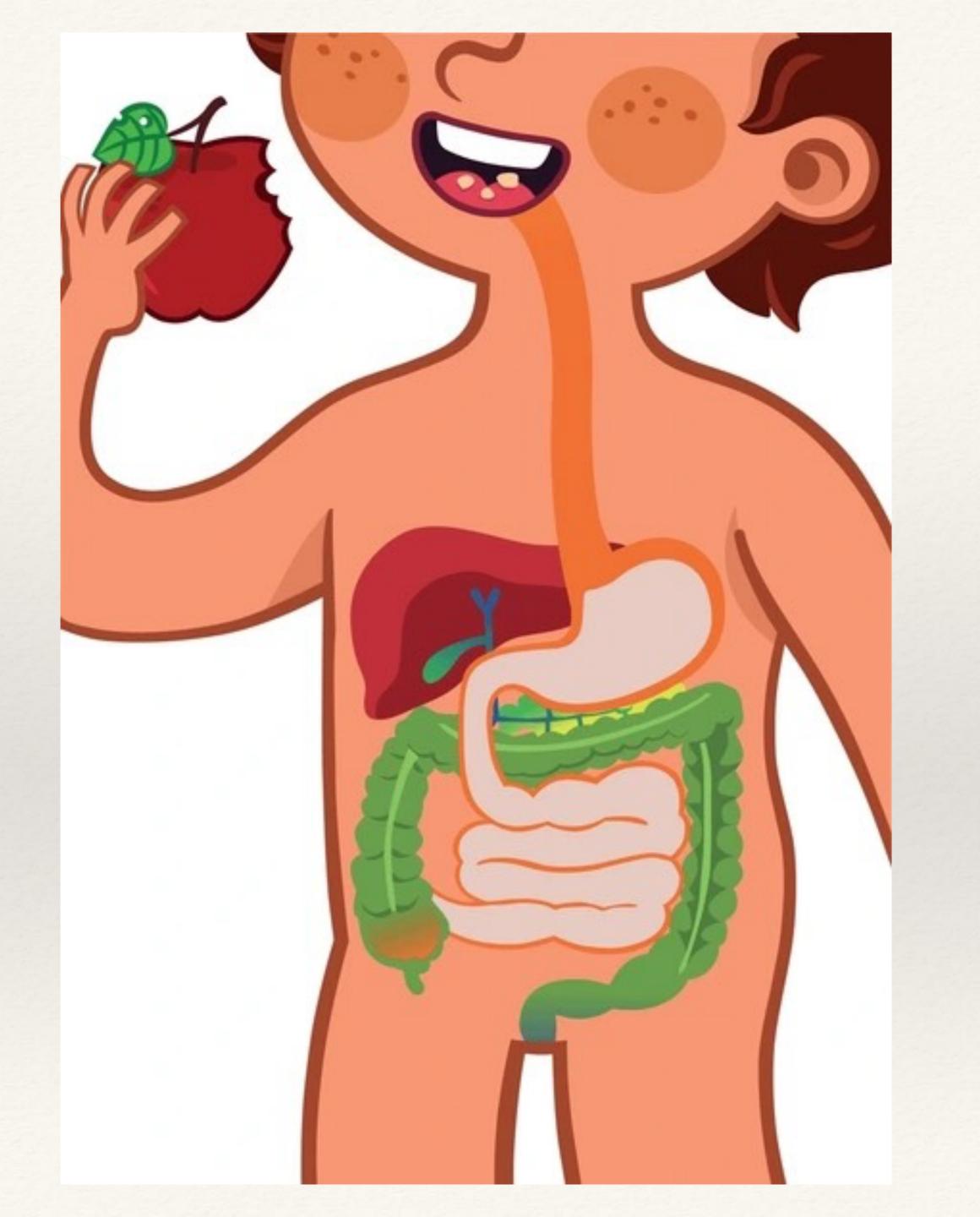


"They will not let us help them. They have chosen cunning instead of belief. Their prison is only in their minds, yet they are in that prison; and so afraid of being taken in that they cannot be taken out.

Matthew 15:15-20 NLT

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Explain to us the parable that says people aren't defiled by what they eat."

"Don't you understand yet?" Jesus asked. "Anything you eat passes through the stomach and then goes into the sewer. But the words you speak come from the heart—that's what defiles you. For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. These are what defile you. Eating with unwashed hands will never defile you."



Anything you eat passes through the stomach and then goes into the sewer.



1 Samuel 16:7 NIV

People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Omnicardiogram or DT scan (Divine Tomography)

Matthew's List - 15:19

evil thoughts
murder
adultery
sexual immorality
theft
lying
slander

Mark's List - 7:21-22

evil thoughts sexual immorality theft murder adultery greed wickedness deceit lustful desires envy slander pride foolishness

Ezekiel 36:26 NLT

... your stony, stubborn heart..

Jeremiah 17:1 NLT

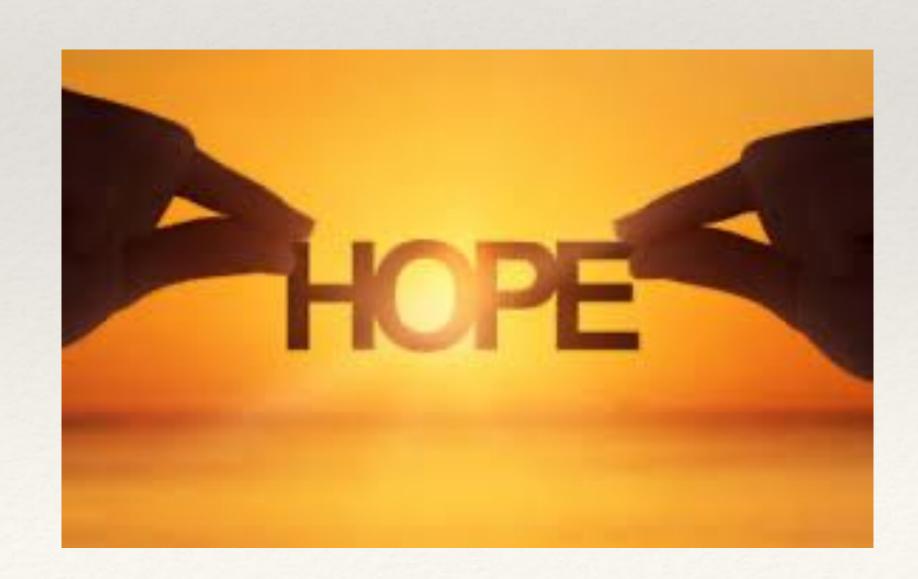
"The sin of Judah is inscribed with an iron chisel— engraved with a diamond point on their stony hearts

Jeremiah 17:9-10

"The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked.
Who really knows how bad it is?

But I, the LORD, search all hearts and examine secret motives.

Is there any hope for our condition?



Ezekiel 36:26 NLT

Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.

Jeremiah 17:1 NLT

"The sin of Judah

is inscribed with an iron chisel—

engraved with a diamond point on their stony hearts

Jeremiah 17:5-6 NLT

This is what the LORD says:

"Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength

and turn their hearts away from the LORD.

They are like stunted shrubs in the desert, with no hope for the future.

They will live in the barren wilderness, in an uninhabited salty land.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

"But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.

Jeremiah 17:9-10

"The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked.

Who really knows how bad it is?

But I, the LORD, search all hearts and examine secret motives.

I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions deserve."

Psalm 51:1-2, 7, 9-10
Have mercy on me, O God,
because of your unfailing love.
Because of your great compassion,
blot out the stain of my sins.
Wash me clean from my guilt.
Purify me from my sin.

Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Don't keep looking at my sins.
Remove the stain of my guilt.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me.

Hebrews 10:19-22 NLT

And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.