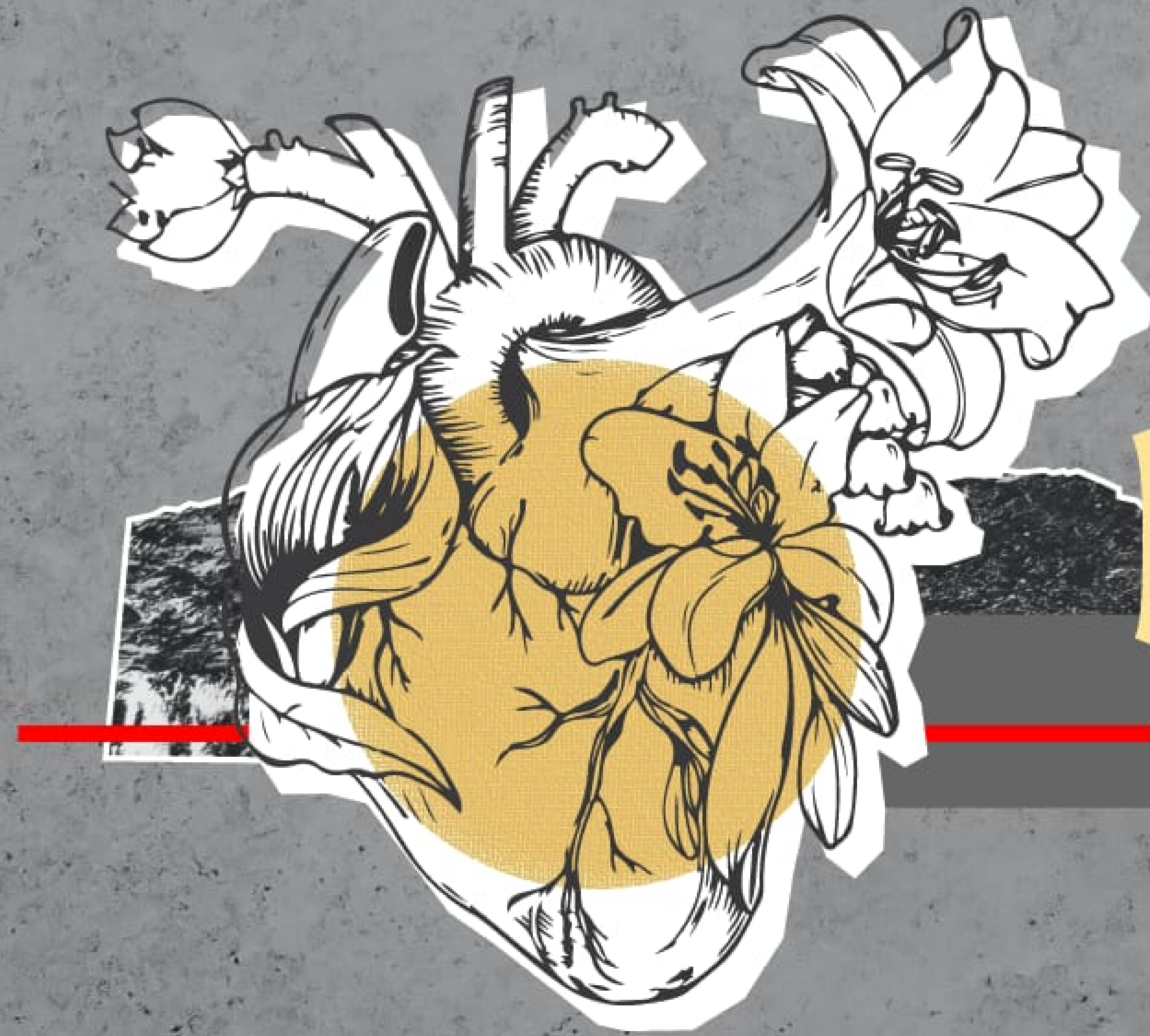




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EZEKIEL 5



ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY
IN THE GLORY OF GOD

90% of the .1%

Privilege is
naturally
squandered



**Privileges that don't
make you better make
you worse.**

**Spiritual privilege:
Truth, heritage,
commandments, kindness....**

**make us worse if
they don't make us better.**

More Biblical wording:

Squandering spiritual
kindness leads to hardness.

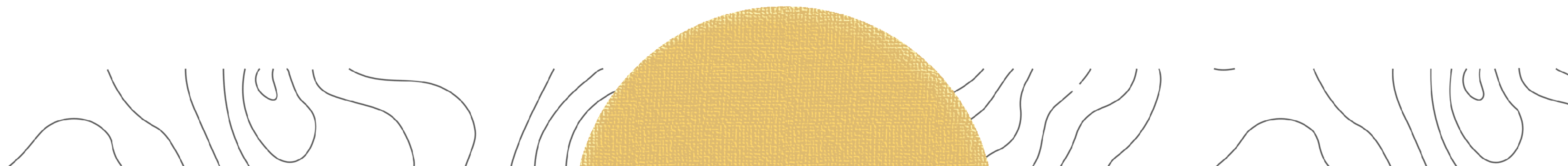
Curious thing:

God says his people were worse than the pagans, and didn't even live up to pagan standards—which were low.

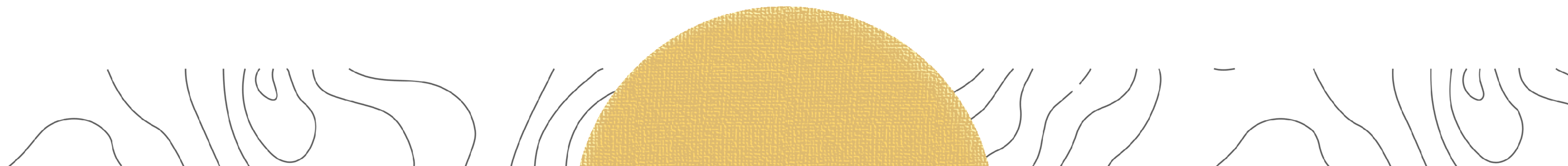


Ezekiel 5:6 – 7

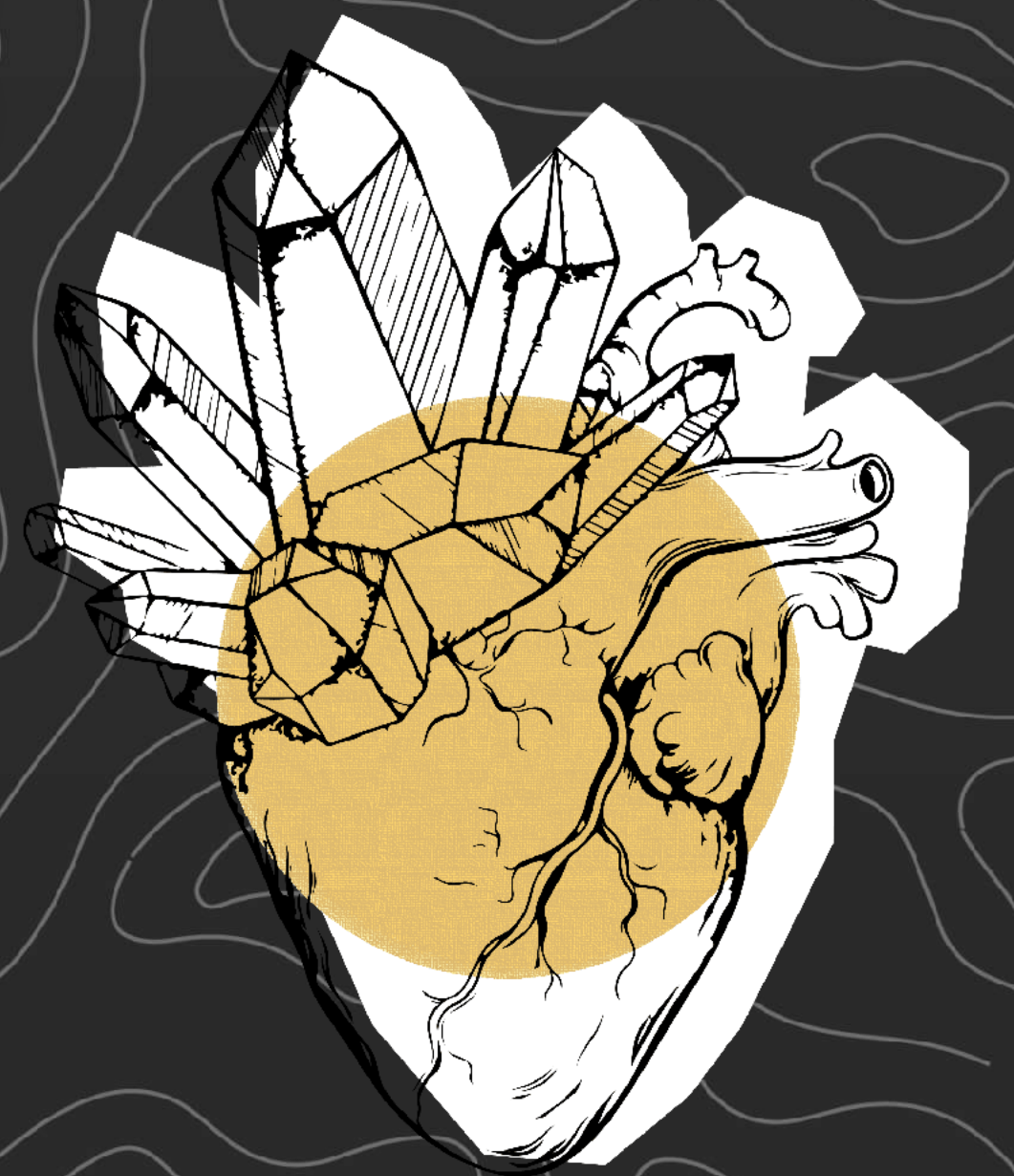
Yet in her wickedness she has rebelled against my laws and decrees more than the nations and countries around her. She has rejected my laws and has not followed my decrees...



... "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says:
You have been more unruly than the nations
around you and have not followed my decrees or
kept my laws. You have not even conformed to the
standards of the nations around you.



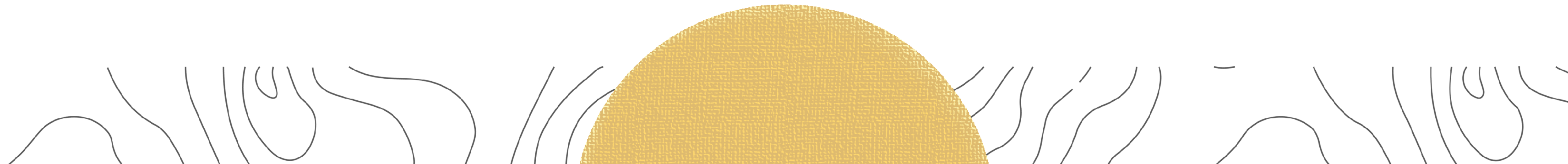
Biblical Theme:
Hardness of Heart



Hebrews 3:14 – 16

We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first. As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion."

Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt?





Proverbs 28:13 – 14

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

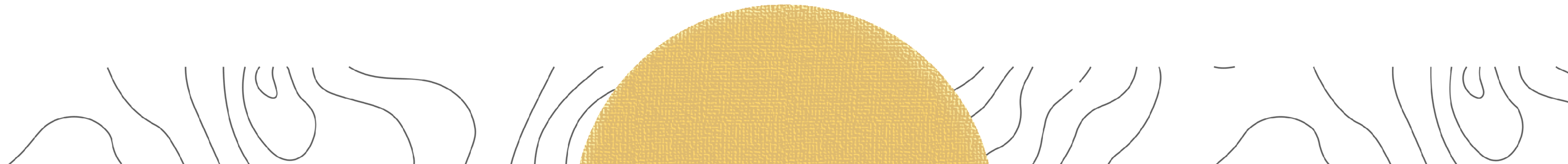
Blessed is the man who always fears the LORD, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.

1. Privileges imply accountability.

(especially knowledge and responsibility)

Luke 12:47 – 48

"That servant who knows his master's will and does not get ready or does not do what his master wants will be beaten with many blows. But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

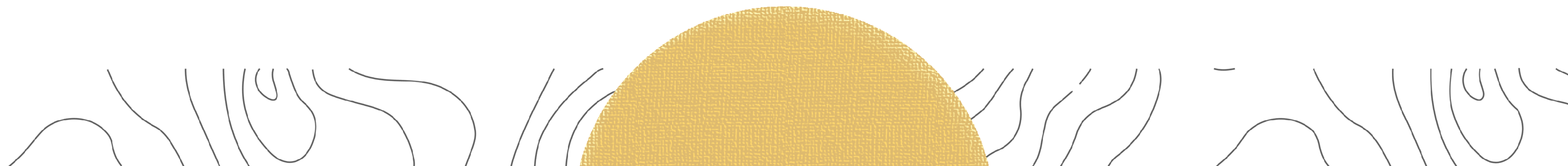


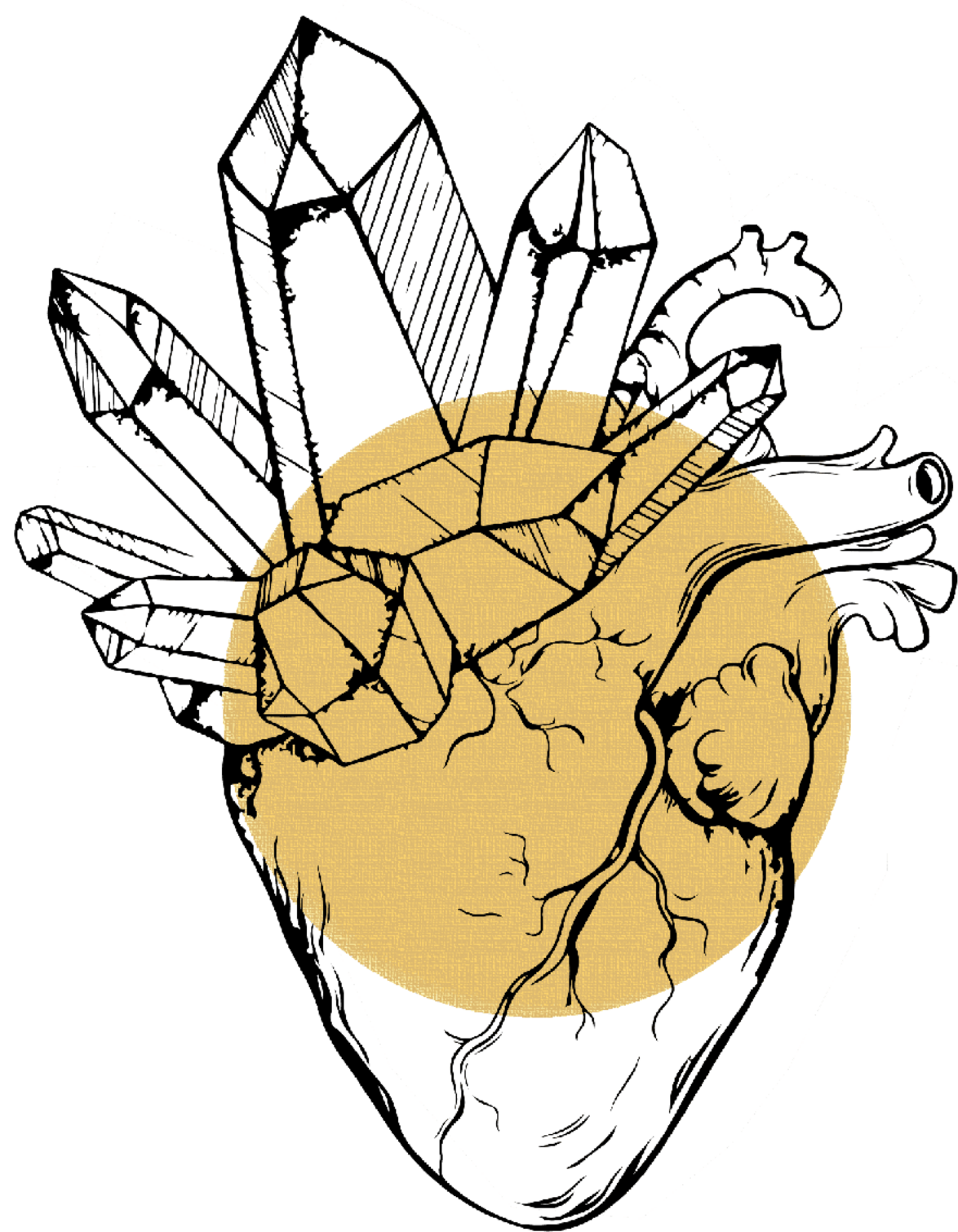
**2. Truth and kindness
that doesn't make
us better makes us
worse.**

How does it happen?

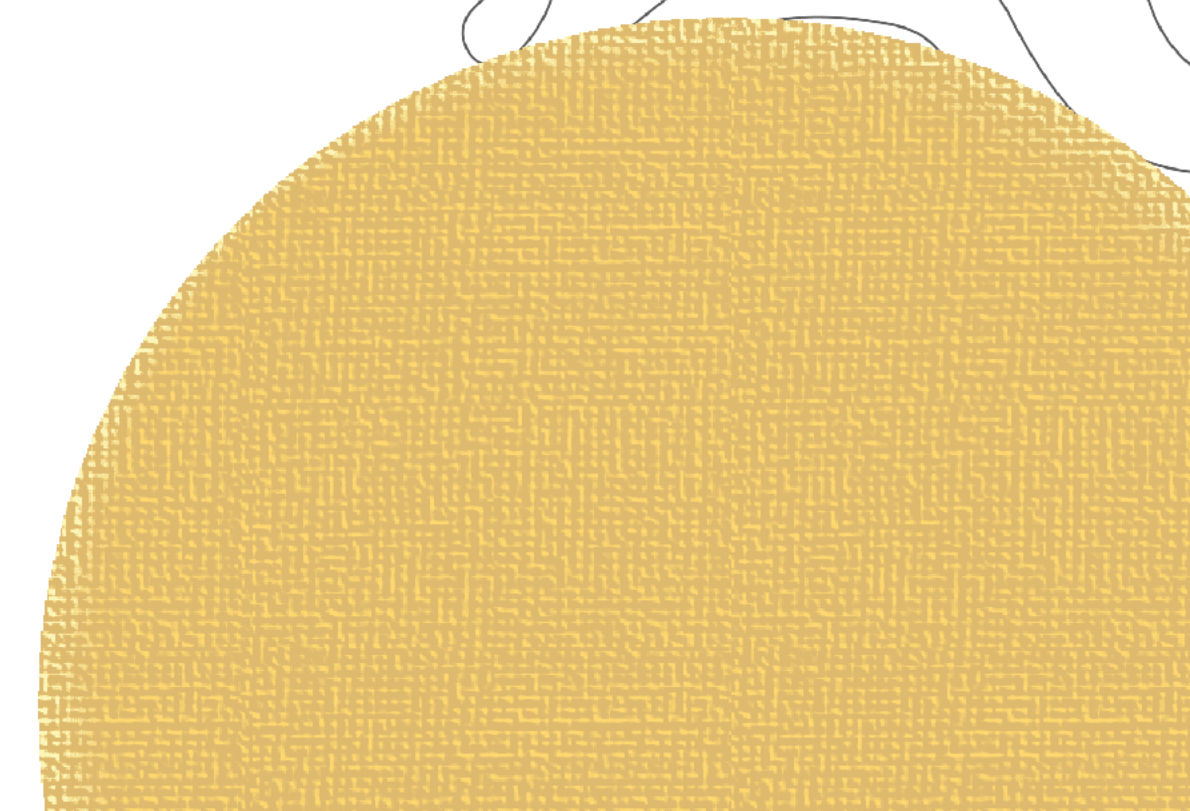
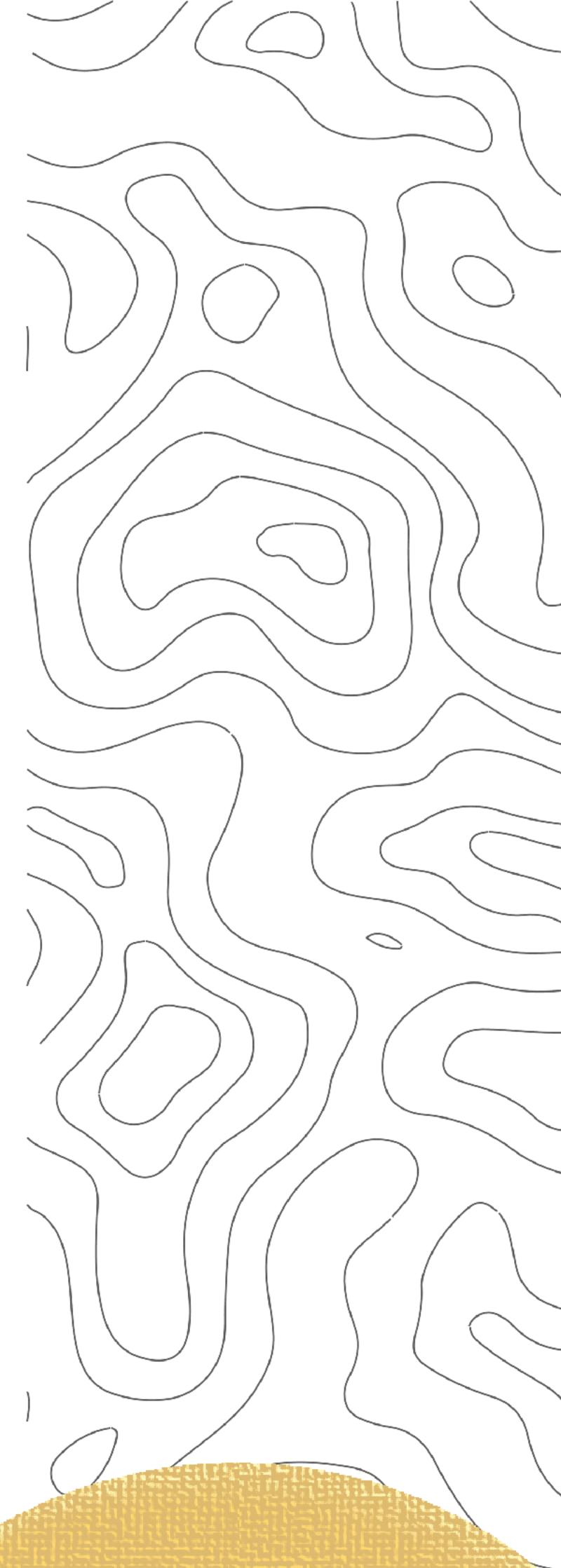
1. Privilege leads to pride
2. Pride suppresses the truth and magnifies the self
3. ST and MS increases delusion and in/sensitivity
4. Delusion and in/sensitivity lead to vices of pride:

"The hungry maggots" – G. MacDonald





**Repentance and
faith is the only
remedy for this
hardness of heart.**



**3. Obstinacy cannot
be coaxed, only
struck or left alone.**

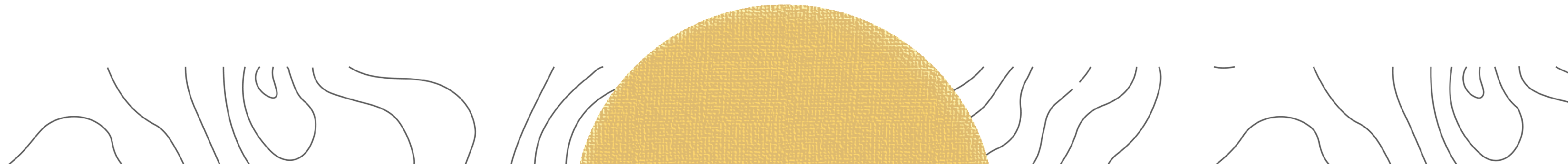


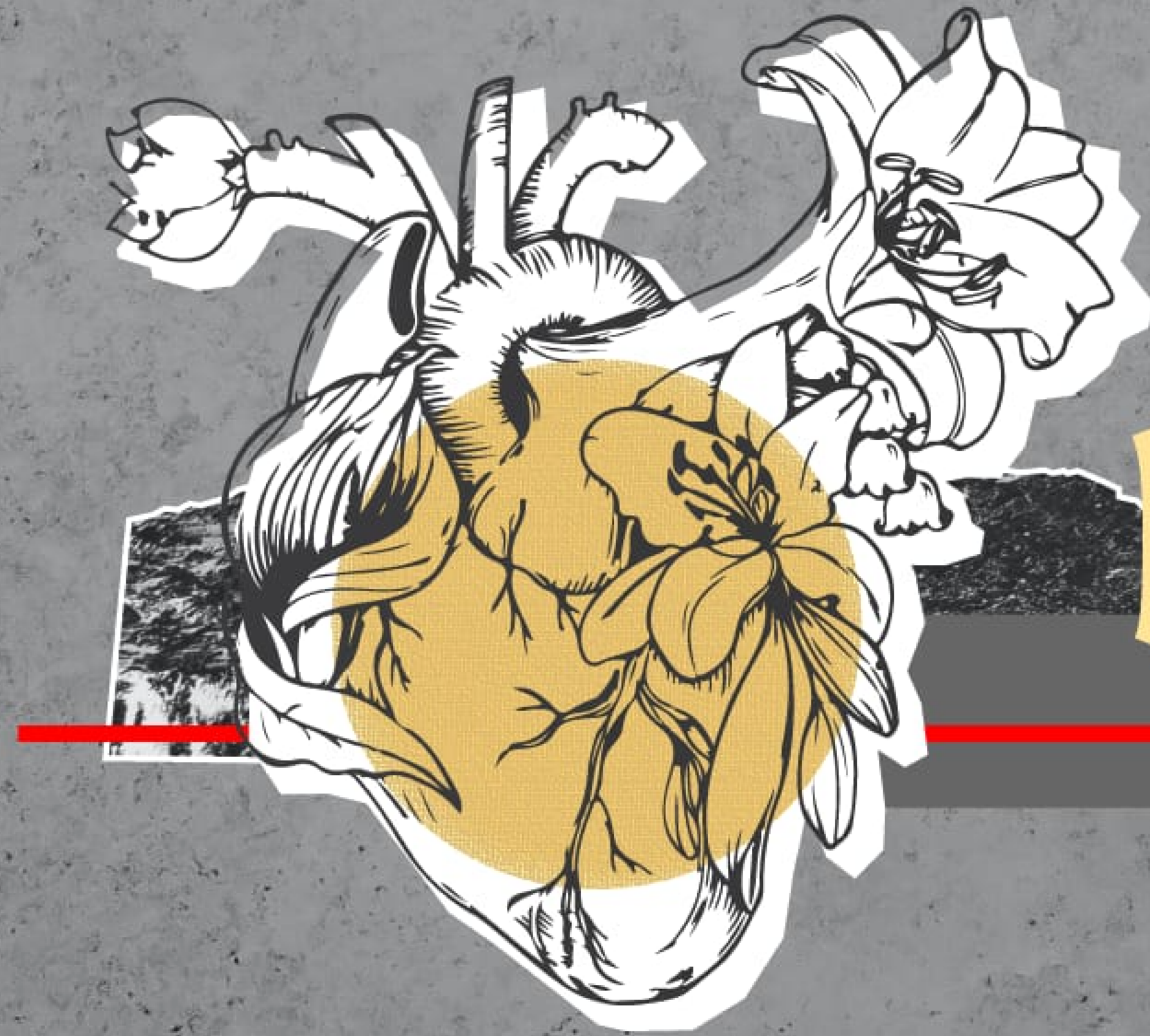
Proverbs 10:13

On the lips of him who has
understanding, wisdom is found,
but a rod is for the back of him who
lacks sense.

Are the kind severe?

If so, when?





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