

The Word of God;
The Ultimate Heart Probe
Hebrews 4:12–14

Introduction: In order to discern if one truly has saving faith one must be able to see into the heart. In order to perform the procedure of looking into the heart one must have a heart probe. We must probe our hearts to see if we have a genuine saving faith or a counterfeit condemning faith. The only viable and accurate heart probe is the word of God.

4:12 The probing power of the word of God and its accuracy.

4:13 The probing power of the word of God and its source

Romans 8:28–29 Two standards God’s word will use to determine the state of our faith.

Those who love God are:¹

1. Those who long for God. Psalm 42:1-2; 63:1; 73:25–26
2. Those who trust God’s power. Psalm 73:27–28; 31:1–5, 23–24
3. Those who are at peace. Psalm 119:165; John 16:33
- John 16:33** “These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”
4. Those who love the things of God. Psalm 69:9
5. Those who love the people of God. I John 5:1-2
- 1 John 5:1** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.
6. Those who keep God’s commands. John 14:21
- John 14:21** “He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.”
7. Those who hate what God hates. Psalm 97:10
8. Those who long for Christ’s return. II Timothy 4:6–8

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

¹ Adapted from John MacArthur’s commentary on Romans 8:28