

Bible Study 08-27-2025

Jeremiah 18:1-6

Title: "The Potter's House"

Jeremiah 18 KJV

1 *The Word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,*

2 *Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear My Words (NIV "to hear MY message).*

God has a plan for the nation of Israel, a chosen vessel to bring His blessings to the world (Romans 9). He used Jeremiah to carry out His mission and instructed the prophet to go down to the potter's house. There, God would illustrate His relationship with Israel and give Jeremiah insight into the Master's plan.

*Jeremiah had a difficult life. The Lord had already chosen him prior to his birth as a divine spokesman to the nations. As a young man he was appointed to announce destruction on his own country. Because of his fearless sermons on the pending judgment of Judah, Jeremiah was persecuted by his own family, the townspeople of Anathoth, and eventually the entire nation of Judah. Jeremiah admits that this dreadful condition existed among the poor and the ignorant as well as the educated and rich rulers. They all utterly rejected God. Jeremiah often wept over Judah's coming destruction. He became known as the weeping prophet. Jeremiah was obedient and served God faithfully.

Many times in the history of Israel, the nation rebelled and would not yield to God. But He loved Israel, and was deeply invested.

3 *Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, He wrought a work on the wheels.*

I went: I did as I was told, I obeyed. I saw the potter was making something. He worked with what He had, forming something undeveloped into a masterpiece. He was intent, diligent and fully committed. This was not a hobby. This was his vocation.

4 *And the vessel that He made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so He made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.*

As Jeremiah watched, he observed the clay was uncooperative and resisted the potter's hand. However, the problem was not with the Potter. The flaw and defect was in the clay. It was marred and broken but still had potential. God is Sovereign and the Potter is absolute. He sees beyond the brokenness and is capable of making the clay whole. God is the Potter

with all power and unlimited authority over the clay. The power is in the hand of the Potter to reform the marred clay and make it good, if He so chooses.

Note: God is willing to give us another opportunity. When we refuse Him, we damage our own lives.

Romans 9:15 NKJV *For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion."*

5 Then the Word of the Lord came to me saying,

6 O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

How do you respond?

Job 38:4-5 NKJV *"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements? Surely you know.*

Romans 11:34, 36 *"For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor? **For** of Him, and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.* God neither changes in character nor needs to repent of His actions, but He has the sovereign freedom to alter His actions if it pleases Him.

The Potter patiently kneaded the clay and made another vessel. Why? Because it is the **Will** of the potter to make it again, another vessel, as it pleases him. Therefore it is necessary for the clay to go through the process.

God has a plan, and it includes you:

Jeremiah 11:29 KJV *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not evil, to give you an expected end (NKJV to give you a future and a hope)."*

Ephesians 2:10 *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

The bigger picture:

John 4:34 NKJV, *Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to finish His work.*

May the work of our heavenly Father result in acts of good service to bring Him glory.

Song: The Truthettes: "He's Still Working On Me"