

THE POTTER'S HOUSE #2

THE POTTER

Jeremiah 18 This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord : ²“Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.” ³So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. ⁴But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

⁵Then the word of the Lord came to me: ⁶“O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?” declares the Lord . “Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. NIV

Last week we learned about the clay and wheel relationship. Today we examine the potter and clay relationship.

I. The Potter’s SOVEREIGNTY.

A. He is a big God

“The heaven of heavens cannot contain thee”

B. He is over all.

1Chronicles 29 ¹² Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

C. He is creator of all

Colossians 1 ¹⁶ For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

D. He has created you for his pleasure.

Revelations 4 ¹¹ Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. KJV

He is sovereign over all. We are his.

1Corinthians 6 ¹⁹ What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? ²⁰ For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.

II. The Potter’s SENSITIVE HANDS (touch)

A. The potter uses the feel of his fingers to work the clay.

The wheel (the church) and the hand (the Holy Spirit) work together.

1. His hands shaped the heavens

Psalms 102 ²⁵ Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens *are* the work of thy hands

2. His hands are shaping you.

He works with the clay according to the clays response. It can yield or be stubborn. God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. Our will must be yielded to his will.

B. The potter is gentle with yielding clay

C. The potter is firm with the stick necked or unyielding.

When pressure is applied to our life we have to ask ourselves, “Is this coming from God or the devil?” It just may be the firm hand of the potter molding you.

Isaiah 45 ⁹ “Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, ‘What are you making?’ Does your work say, ‘He has no hands’? NIV

III. The Potter’s SKILL

A. The potter’s cutting tools

1. For shaping the inside of the vessel.
2. For designing the outside of the vessel.
Cutting to enhance the design.
3. If the clay is too thick you can’t put it in the kiln.
It must be thinned or trimmed.

God loves you just the way you are but loves you too much to leave you that way.

B. We are his masterpiece

Ephesians 2 ¹⁰ For we are his **workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus unto good works.... KJV

The word “workmanship” (**poiēma**), used only here and in Romans 1:20 (where the NIV renders it “what has been made”) **denotes a work of art or a masterpiece.**¹

God has but one thing in mind. To make you a vessel of honor.

¹Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures* (Eph 2:10). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.