

IN THE POTTER'S HOUSE

Jeremiah 18:1-6

Key Scripture

Jeremiah 18:3-4

"Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something at the wheel. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make."

Introduction

One day God wanted to teach Jeremiah a powerful lesson about life, purpose, failure, restoration, and destiny.

Instead of taking him to a palace, a university, or a battlefield, God took him to a potter's house.

There Jeremiah watched a potter working with clay on a wheel. As he watched, the clay became spoiled in the potter's hand. But instead of throwing it away, the potter reshaped it into another vessel.

Then God spoke:

Jeremiah 18:6

"Can I not do with you as this potter?" says the Lord. "Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand."

The message from the Potter's House is simple:

God is still working on us.

No matter where you are today, God is not finished with your life.

1. In The Potter's House We Learn That God Is The Potter And We Are The Clay

Clay does not tell the potter what to make.

The potter decides.

Many people want God to bless their plans, but God wants us to surrender to His plans.

One of the greatest challenges in the Christian life is allowing God to be God.

We want control.

We want our own timing.

We want our own methods.

But in the Potter's House we learn submission.

Isaiah 64:8

*"Yet You, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay,
You are the potter; we are all the work of Your
hand."*

The safest place in life is in the hands of God.

Illustration: The Clay's Complaint

Imagine a piece of clay speaking to the potter:

"Why are you pressing me?"

"Why are you stretching me?"

"Why are you spinning me?"

"Why are you putting me through fire?"

The clay does not understand.

But the potter sees the finished vessel.

Many times we ask God the same questions.

"Lord, why this trial?"

"Why this delay?"

"Why this disappointment?"

God's answer is:

"Trust Me. I am making something beautiful out of your life."

2. In The Potter's House We Learn That Every Vessel Must Go Through A Process

Before clay becomes useful, it must go through several stages.

It Must Be Dug Out

The clay begins hidden beneath the ground.

God often calls people from ordinary places.

David was in the field.

Moses was in the wilderness.

Gideon was threshing wheat.

The disciples were fishermen.

God specializes in using ordinary people.

It Must Be Cleansed

The potter removes stones, sticks, and impurities.

Likewise, God removes things that hinder our growth:

- Pride
- Bitterness
- Un-forgiveness
- Fear
- Sin

The cleaning process is not comfortable, but it is necessary.

It Must Be Shaped

The potter places the clay on the wheel.

The wheel represents the circumstances of life.

Sometimes life seems to be spinning out of control.

But the wheel is not out of control.

The Potter controls the wheel.

3. In The Potter's House We Learn That Failure Is Not Final

Jeremiah 18:4

"The vessel was marred in the hand of the potter."

Notice where the vessel was damaged.

It was damaged in the potter's hand.

Sometimes we think that if we belong to God we will never face problems.

That is not true.

Even while serving God:

- We make mistakes.
- We experience disappointments.
- We suffer setbacks.
- We face failures.

But the good news is that the potter did not throw away the clay.

He reshaped it.

Peter Failed

Peter denied Jesus three times.

Yet Jesus restored him and made him a leader of the early church.

Jonah Failed

Jonah ran from God's calling.

Yet God gave him another chance.

Mark Failed

John Mark abandoned Paul during ministry.

Later Paul said:

"Bring Mark with you, for he is useful to me for ministry."

Our failures do not surprise God.

The Potter knows how to remake broken vessels.

Illustration: The Broken Pot

A potter was once asked what he does with a vessel that becomes damaged.

The listener expected him to say, "I throw it away."

Instead he replied:

"If the clay is still soft, I put it back on the wheel and begin again."

That is exactly what God does.

Many people think they are finished because of:

- Divorce
- Addiction
- Financial failure
- Spiritual failure
- Bad decisions

But God says:

"Get back on the wheel. I'm not finished with you."

4. In The Potter's House We Learn That The Fire Has A Purpose

After shaping the vessel, the potter places it in a furnace.

Without fire, the vessel remains weak.

The fire gives it strength.

1 Peter 1:7

"That the genuineness of your faith... though tested by fire..."

Nobody enjoys the fire.

Yet every great servant of God went through it.

Joseph had prison.

David had persecution.

Daniel had the lions' den.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had the fiery furnace.

Jesus had the cross.

The fire is not proof that God has abandoned you.

The fire is proof that God is preparing you.

5. In The Potter's House We Learn The Value Of Staying In God's Hands

The most important thing is not avoiding the wheel.

The most important thing is not avoiding the fire.

The most important thing is staying in the Potter's hands.

As long as you remain in God's hands:

- There is hope.
- There is restoration.
- There is healing.
- There is a future.
- There is purpose.

The devil wants you to quit.

God wants you to trust Him.

The devil sees your present condition.

God sees your future glory.

Conclusion

Jeremiah entered the Potter's House and learned several lessons:

- God is the Potter.
- We are the clay.
- Every life goes through a process.
- Failure is not final.
- The wheel has a purpose.
- The fire has a purpose.
- God can remake broken vessels.

Today you may feel:

- Broken
- Disappointed
- Forgotten
- Delayed
- Discouraged

But the message from the Potter's House is:

God is not finished with you.

The Potter still has His hands on your life.

The wheel is still turning.

The work is still in progress.

And when God is finished, you will become a vessel of honour for His glory.

Philippians 1:6

"He who has begun a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for being the Master Potter. We surrender our lives into Your hands today. Shape us according to Your will. Remove every impurity from our hearts. Help us trust You through every trial, every delay, and every season of shaping. When we fail, restore us. When we are weak, strengthen us. Make us vessels of honour fit for Your Kingdom and Your glory. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen.

Prophetic Declarations

1. I declare that I am in the hands of the Master Potter.
2. God is shaping my life according to His divine purpose.
3. Every broken area of my life shall be restored.
4. My failures shall not define my future.
5. Every trial I face is working for my good.

6. The fire I am experiencing shall produce strength and maturity.
7. I shall emerge stronger, wiser, and better than before.
8. God is making me a vessel of honour.
9. Every delay shall turn into a testimony.
10. The work that God has started in my life shall be completed.
11. I shall not quit, give up, or lose hope.
12. My latter glory shall be greater than the former.
13. God's purpose for my life shall be fulfilled.
14. I shall be useful in the Kingdom of God.
15. I receive grace to remain in the Potter's hands until His work in me is complete, in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.