



## DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

*The Potter and the Clay (part 2)... By Antish*

READ: JEREMIAH 18: 1 – 6

Jeremiah 18 depicts the sentiment of the potter towards a clay that did not respond to the will of his mind and the articulations of his fingers... Showing this vision to Jeremiah, God wanted to show how He reacts with a certain type of clay when what He intends does not happen.. The chapter opens our eyes on many things that God is expecting from His people.

### **A. GOD IS LOOKING FOR A PREPARED AND READY PEOPLE.**

God is looking for people who are prepared and ready : ready to listen, prepared and ready to be moulded into a new shape and prepared and ready to let go the past things for something God is showing ahead even in the process this will mean that there will be pain on the way, that a sacrifice of the self will be required and that the adequate price has to be paid to reach up to that point will bring much tears and breaking to happen.

God is bringing us somewhere in His divine purpose for our lives. We are on a spiritual journey on earth ... Israel was on a journey in the desert. But The road of God is always a tough road, the road is never easy... the believer needs to be brave, willing, self denying to walk in that. But remember like the potter, God never starts, with the most refined, the best clay... He knows that what he has contain impurities and is not malleable. But one thing the Potter knows is that if the clay responds to his pressures, to his efforts of craftsmanship, to his works of transformation, of purification, he can TRUST the clay will give him what his heart desires.

### **B. A WORK HAS TO BE FINISHED IN OUR SOULS BEFORE GOD CAN SHAPE US INTO A VESSEL OF GLORY**

One secret I want to point out here is that BEFORE we can ask God to make us a servant, a minister, a vessel of his power and glory... we need to understand that there is a PROCESS that has to take place in our life... A work has to be finished in us... A half done job will never make us become the clay that God can change into a vessel of Glory, into a servant that will stand before Him and men, a man who will accomplish his will in the world.

In Jeremiah 18, Israel was a picture an unfinished clay, an imperfect clay... A unfinished clay that was resistant to the works of the hands of God. Israel was a people who was not prepared to listen... That were too busy doing their business, too busy proclaiming their own justice and righteousness, too busy presenting an image of God that was not God at all. Israel could never become the righteousness of God because their own name, their own righteousness and their own traditions and ceremonies were too much important. They have fashioned their own way to believe, their own way to walk and their own way to serve through their religious minds.

*(Continued next page...)*

## WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Week 21

- The potter was trying. The result did not come according to his choice. He knew he could not do better. The resistance of the clay, its lack of self dying and its obstinence were the greatest barriers to the finished product. In some people, because they bear these characters in their hearts, God will never reach the finished product with them...God will always have to do a breaking in their lives until they become obedient enough to respond to his will.
- **C. THE CLAY CANNOT ESCAPE THE ENCOUNTER WITH THE POTTER ACCORDING TO THE TERMS OF THE POTTER. WE HAVE NO FREE PASS WITH GOD!! WE WILL FACE ALL OUR DISOBEDIENCE BEFORE GOD.**
- We cannot go to God and walk with Him on our own terms. We have to KNOW and SEEK His Will before we try to undertake anything for Him or before Him. We cannot IGNORE what God think. We should not give ourselves a FREE PASS on our own ways, methods and disobedience. King David tried to do this once.
- In the second Book of Samuel chapter, the Scriptures narrate two great sins king David committed: Adultery and murder... He transgressed two of the ten commandments expressly given by God through Moses and for some time, David lived as if everything would be okay. He wanted to get a free pass over this. He wanted to forget. Maybe he was thinking he was a chosen, an anointed, maybe he could have thought his sin would fall short of his anointing and position in the kingdom. Maybe he was thinking that God loved him too much to point out his sins.

He might be thinking that the love of God for him was ENOUGH for God to ignore his disobedience and sins. Many in our days do think like this. Many think that their long years as believers can inoculate them against their disobedience and sins, other might think that because they are doing such and such work for the kingdom of God, the church or their ministries, the society, the people, so God will never look that at their wrongdoings... that God only sees the good things they are doing. God will always bring men to a cross-road with Him at the point of any disobedience and sin. God is a confronting God... *(to be continued)*.

### Events /Notices

- ▶ **Next bible study** is planned for *Friday the 5th of June* at 8pm via the usual Zoom link.
- ▶ **Those who would like** to link up with CTMI Zoom weekly meetings please contact Billy or Gareth.