



GOSPEL MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

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EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS, JUDE 3

BkJer 18. THE CLAY IS IN THE POTTER'S HAND

LightHouse Ranch Church James P. Porteous 11-21-21

Who is the Potter and Who or What does the Clay Represent?

Jeremiah 18:1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
Jeremiah 18:2 Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words.
Jeremiah 18:3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels.
Jeremiah 18:4 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*.
Jeremiah 18:5 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
Jeremiah 18:6 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.
Jeremiah 18:7 *At what* instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy *it*;
Jeremiah 18:8 If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.
Jeremiah 18:9 And *at what* instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant *it*;
Jeremiah 18:10 If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

Obviously, the Potter represents the Lord and the Clay the House of Israel (in this text, v.6)

Facts or Questions	Answer or Application
Does the clay only represent Israel?	it represents all nations. (vs. 7-10)
Is there anything or anyone the clay does not represent?	it represents everything. (Col 1:16-18)
What is the Potter's creation called?	a vessel (v.4). (2Co 6:14-17 ; Eph 2:10)
What is God's hope for His creation?	the work of faith with power. (Eph 1:15-23 ; 6:10 ; 2Th 1:11-12)
How is God's hope fulfilled?	(Eph 4:1-3 ; Php 3:13-14 ; Col 3:14-16 ; 2Th 1:11-12 ; 1Ti 6:12 ; 1Pe 3:8-9 ; 5:10)
When God's creation changes from good to evil or from evil to good, what and how fast is His response?	blessing or cursing, reward or judgment; ... at what instant... (vs. 7-10)

People do not know God ([Jer 9:23-24](#); [Jas 2:13](#))

Jeremiah 18:11 Now therefore go to, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you: return ye now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good. (*Plea to turn from evil after previous warning*)

Jeremiah 18:12 And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.

Jeremiah 18:13 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Ask ye now among the heathen, who hath heard such things: the virgin of Israel hath done a very horrible thing.

Jeremiah 18:14 Will a man leave the snow of Lebanon *which cometh* from the rock of the field? or shall the cold flowing waters that come from another place be forsaken?

Jeremiah 18:15 Because my people hath forgotten me, they have burned incense to vanity, and they have caused them to stumble in their ways *from* the ancient paths, to walk in paths, *in* a way not cast up;

Jeremiah 18:16 To make their land desolate, *and* a perpetual hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished, and wag his head.

Jeremiah 18:17 I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will shew them the back, and not the face, in the day of their calamity.

Jeremiah 18:18 Then said they, Come, and let us devise devices against Jeremiah; for the law shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, and let us smite him with the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words.

Does Jeremiah pray an unjust prayer? ([Mt 5:44](#))

Jeremiah 18:19 Give heed to me, O LORD, and hearken to the voice of them that contend with me.

Jeremiah 18:20 Shall evil be recompensed for good? for they have digged a pit for my soul. Remember that I stood before thee to speak good for them, *and* to turn away thy wrath from them.

Jeremiah 18:21 Therefore deliver up their children to the famine, and pour out their *blood* by the force of the sword; and let their wives be bereaved of their children, and *be* widows; and let their men be put to death; *let* their young men *be* slain by the sword in battle.

Jeremiah 18:22 Let a cry be heard from their houses, when thou shalt bring a troop suddenly upon them: for they have digged a pit to take me, and hid snares for my feet.

Jeremiah 18:23 Yet, LORD, thou knowest all their counsel against me to slay *me*: forgive not their iniquity, neither blot out their sin from thy sight, but let them be overthrown before thee; deal *thus* with them in the time of thine anger.

Concerning Jeremiah's prayer and God's judgment

1. As God's spokesman, he asked for the same judgment as God Himself.
2. God's judgment doesn't change for those who consistently disobey His Word (the Holy Ghost speaks to us through Peter, Paul, Jude, and John, [2Pe 2:9-22](#); [2Th 1:3-10](#); [Jude 11-13](#)).
3. Mercy prevails now but Christ will execute God's fierce wrath at His coming ([Re 19:11-21](#)).

The clay is still in the Potter's Hand
God's unique altar call is different ([Jer 26:13](#))