

The Potter's House

2016 Mark Beaird

Text: Jeremiah 18: 1-6 (NIV)

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.” **3** So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. **4** But 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.

5 Then the word of the Lord came to me. **6** He said, “Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?” declares the Lord. “Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel.”

Introduction

As we consider the work of the master craftsman, consider the *purposes* of God in your life.

I. The Potter is the Master Craftsman (vv.1-3).

- A. His mind envisions and plans the outcome long before the final result.
- B. His hands are skilled and powerful to do the work.

II. The Potter Works with Purpose (v.4).

- A. He is always actively creating a work of purpose.
- B. His purpose is not always evident to those who observe his actions.

III. The Potter has Power over the Clay (vv.5-7).

- A. The clay must yield to power of His hand if it is to become what He has planned.
- B. Yielding to His purpose is the task of the clay.

Conclusion

God seeks to shape and mold us according to His *purposes* and calls us to submission and trust in Him and the work of His hands. The only question that remains is whether or not we will yield to His work.