

Jeremiah 18:1-6

1 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."

➤ **The Potter** – his intense interest and complete power

Psalms 33:18

...the Lord's eyes watch all who honor him, all who wait for his faithful love

Psalms 139:17-18

17 How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, I am still with you.

Psalms 32:8

...I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

➤ **The Wheel** – the circumstances of life

The pressure point of pain develops qualities into the vessel that nothing else will.

A doxology in the dark is much more revealing than a hymn of praise in the light.

"Storms are the triumph of his art." – George Herbert

➤ **The Clay** – possesses the potential to be a valuable vessel

"You can never know the full potential of your life until your life has been touched by God."

– Dr. Chuck Smith

marred = shachath (shaw-khath') = perhaps to go to ruin

Jeremiah 18:11-12

11...So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions. 12 But they will reply, 'It's no use. We will continue with our own plans; we will all follow the stubbornness of our evil hearts.'



"God's task through Jeremiah, is this: How can I get these people to take me seriously, right where they are? How can I get them to see that I am working, right now, silently and invisibly, but surely and eternally, in their lives and in their history? How can I get them to see the connections between what they are doing now and who they will be in ten years—in twenty years?...How can I get them out of their tedious egos into my glorious will here and now."

– Eugene Peterson



nunc coepi (Latin) = begin again

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