

Jeremiah – Lesson 6. Symbolic Acts

Romans 9:21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

“The significance of the Jewish economy is not yet fully comprehended. Truths vast and profound are shadowed forth in its rites and symbols. The gospel is the key that unlocks its mysteries. Through a knowledge of the plan of redemption, its truths are opened to the understanding.” -Ellen G. White, Christ's Object Lessons, p. 133.

Truth In Symbols

Genesis 4:3–7 (NKJV) And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. ⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶ So the Lord said to Cain,

Numbers 21:8–9 (NKJV) Then the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live.” ⁹ So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

The Israelites saved their lives by looking upon the uplifted serpent. That look implied faith. They lived because they believed God's word, and trusted in the means provided for their recovery.- PP, p. 431.

Genesis 3:14, 15 (NKJV) So the Lord God said to the serpent:

“Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

***Psalm 91:13** (NKJV) You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

The Potter's Clay

Jeremiah 18:1–4 (NKJV) The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying: ² “Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear My words.” ³ Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something at the wheel. ⁴ 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 it seemed good to the potter to make. **Tearing away the kingdom. Two parts for Solomon.**

Isaiah 29:16 (NKJV) Surely you have things turned around!

Shall the potter be esteemed as the clay; For shall the thing made say of him who made it, “He did not make me”? Or shall the thing formed say of him who formed it, “He has no understanding”?

Isaiah 45:9 (NKJV) “Woe to him who strives with his Maker!

Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, ‘What are you making?’ Or shall your handiwork say, ‘He has no hands’?

***Isaiah 64:8** (NKJV) But now, O Lord, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand.

Romans 9:17–21 (NKJV) For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.”

¹⁸ Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens. You will say to me then, “Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?” ²⁰ But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, “Why have you made me like this?” ²¹ **Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?**

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine...

The Holy Grail - The name of a legendary sacred vessel, identified with the chalice of the last supper or the dish of the Pascal lamb, and said to possess miraculous powers. It is a gothic legend, which first came together in the form of written romances, deriving from some pre-Christian folklore hints, in the later 12th and early 13th centuries. **Genesis 2:7** (NKJV) And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

What gives a vessel value. The vessel or what it holds.

Moses Ark = A Savior

Noah's Ark = The Saved

The Ark Of The Covenant = The Sacred

The dead sea scroll jars were priceless because of the contents.

A 55 gallon Drum that is full will last longer than an empty one.

2 Timothy 2:19-21 "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity." But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

***2 Corinthians 4:7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

2 Kings 4:2-4 (NKJV) So Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" And she said, "Your maidservant has nothing in the house but a jar of oil."³ Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few."⁴ And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones."

John 2:6 (NKJV) Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece.

The Degeneration of a Nation

Jeremiah 19:1-2 (NKJV) Thus says the Lord: "Go and get a potter's earthen flask, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests."² And go out to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the Potsherd Gate; and proclaim there the words that I will tell you,

***Exodus 19:5** (NKJV) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.

Jeremiah 19:5 (NKJV) (they have also built the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or speak, nor did it come into My mind),

Deuteronomy 18:10 (NKJV) There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, ...

Smashing the Jar

Jeremiah 19:10-11 (NKJV) "Then you shall break the flask in the sight of the men who go with you,"¹¹ and say to them, "Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Even so I will break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, which cannot be made whole again; and they shall bury them in Tophet till there is no place to bury.

What good is a smashed clay jar? **Humpty Dumpty**

Exodus 32:19 (NKJV) So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. So Moses' anger became hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.

The Linen Belt

Jeremiah 13:1-2 (NKJV) Thus the Lord said to me: "Go and get yourself a linen sash, and put it around your waist, but do not put it in water."² So I got a sash according to the word of the Lord, and put it around my waist.

***Leviticus 16:4** (NKJV) He shall put the holy linen tunic and the linen trousers on his body; he shall be girded with a linen sash, and with the linen turban he shall be attired. These are holy garments.

Jeremiah 13:4-11 (NKJV) "Take the sash that you acquired, which is around your waist, and arise, go to the Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole in the rock."⁵ So I went and hid it by the Euphrates, as the Lord commanded me.

Euphrates being the river of Babylon, which was to be the place of their bondage, a material circumstance in this sign. **Psalm 137**

Now it came to pass after many days that the Lord said to me, "Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take from there the sash which I commanded you to hide there."⁷ Then I went to the Euphrates and dug, and I took the sash from the place where I had hidden it; and there was the sash, ruined. It was profitable for nothing."⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,⁹ "Thus says the Lord: 'In this manner I will ruin the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem. ...'¹¹ For as the sash clings to the waist of a man, so I have caused the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah to cling to Me,' says the Lord, 'that they may become My people, for renown, for praise, and for glory; but they would not hear.'

Jeremiah 13:15-17 (NKJV) Hear and give ear: Do not be proud, For the Lord has spoken. Give glory to the Lord your God before He causes darkness, and before your feet stumble on the dark mountains, And while you are looking for light, He turns it into the shadow of death And makes it dense darkness. But if you will not hear it, My soul will weep in secret for your pride; My eyes will weep bitterly And run down with tears, Because the Lord's flock has been taken captive.