

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

JEREMIAH 18

Jeremiah 18

Jeremiah eighteen is the story of Jeremiah and his visit to the "Potter's House" and the prophesy of God's people Israel in their relationship to God their creator. As usual, if one is to understand the passage, you must understand the historical context. Jeremiah is living before the Babylonian captivity and exile. *and* during it. He prophesied that the Babylonians would take the people away, he also predicted that the people would prosper in their captivity and that God in His faithfulness would bring them back into the land of their ancestry to replant them and allow them to rebuild the central place of worship. The people just simply could not believe that God would use a people that in many ways, were more wicked than they, to punish them for their wickedness and idolatry. So, God used Jeremiah to give them many illustrations to drive the point home to them.

Jeremiah's ministry was not a necessarily pleasant one. God told Jeremiah in Chapter One that He would be with him, but that his assignment would not be easy. God assigned Jeremiah six things that He would do; four of the six were negative. He told Jeremiah to root out, pull down, destroy, throw down and then, and only then could He do the work of

building and planting. Why would that be so? It is because these were people who thought they knew what they needed to know. After all, they were the chosen people, they were the people who had been blessed above all others, did they really need anything? Including God? Yes! The reality is, Jeremiah's ministry is not much different than the American Pastor's assignment in America, especially in the south. People have a form of godliness but deny the supernatural power and presence of God. This is the reason of the Potter's House visit. God wanted Jeremiah to see an illustration of His relationship with His people and relay it to them. The potter was making something on the wheel and while he was molding it, it was "marred" that is, it was corrupted and therefore became useless. It could not be used for its intended purpose. This was a picture of Israel. If they continued in their wickedness, they would not be able to be used for God's great intended purpose. If they repented, God would remake them into a vessel unto honor.

Prayer and Action Steps

Dear God, make me into a vessel of honor, fit for your best purposes. Amen

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?

