



## Jeremiah

18:1-10

New International Version  
1984 (NIV1984)

**18** This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:<sup>2</sup> “Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.” <sup>3</sup> So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. <sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, <sup>8</sup> and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. <sup>9</sup> And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, <sup>10</sup> and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.

Changing your life’s paradigm

(1) Acknowledge the Truth

“Truth is not a virtue unless it is given with love!” — Pete Welsh

(2) Accepting the truth

(3) Acting upon the truth



## SERMON NOTES

“You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, “You did not make me”? Can the pot say to the potter, “You know nothing”? Isa.29:16

### **Authority** – The Potter and the Clay

“I am the same as you in God’s sight; I too am a piece of clay.” Job 33:6

“Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.” Isaiah 64:8

### **Confidence** – In the hands of God

“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.”

**Sacred:** dedicated or set apart for the service of God

### **Reveal** – discover God’s purpose

“There is no greater discovery than seeing God as the author of your destiny.” — Ravi Zacharias

### ***The Potter’s House***

- The Word of God.
- A Close Encounter.
- A Personal Touch.

# SACRED JOURNEY

## WHY DID GOD BECOME A MAN IN JESUS?

Although the Triune God is from all eternity, the Scriptures teach that at a certain point in time the second person of the Trinity became a man known as Jesus Christ, or Jesus of Nazareth. This is known as the incarnation, which simply means “in the flesh.” We have already learned how the entire human race fell into decay mentally, spiritually, physically and emotionally because of Adam’s choice. We have also pointed out how the priests, temple and sacrificial system were not able to fully solve the problem of sin in the human heart. The principle reason for this is that the entire human race is made up of sinners and there is no one in the human race without the disease. As Augustine said, “We are sinners by birth and by choice.”

How can the human race be rescued out of rebellion and avoid the inevitable condemnation when everyone without exception is sick with sin? Who can do cataract surgery but someone who can see clearly? The only way is to bring another Adam into the world; someone who, like the first Adam, was without sin and who could once again have the choice to obey or disobey, but this time get it right. In other words, there had to be a way to go back and rewrite that first chapter in our history recorded in Genesis chapter 3. Another storyline is created.

But how? God knows that the whole human race is ineligible, so it couldn’t be an inside job. God devised a plan from the “outside” which involved the radical idea of God himself entering into human history. But even this was not without problems. He had to find a way to enter the human race in an abnormal way that would not pass on the sin nature, and yet would still be fully human. So Christ was born of a virgin into the human race as the second Adam.

The light of God came into the darkness of our world to reveal the truth, to restore life and to rekindle the love of God without guilt or condemnation in Christ.

*“What’s the point of striving to get to the top of the whole world only to lose your identity in the process? The path of*

*success will demand more of you, promise more and deliver less than What is so valuable you would be willing to trade your joy, your unique qualities to own it? Are you ready to rethink the path you’re on?” (my paraphrase of Matthew 16:26)*

**Aim for heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim for earth and you will get neither.”**

*“What’s the point of striving to get to the top of the heap, to be better than everyone else, to be admired, applauded and worship if in the process lose your unique, special identity that makes you you? What is so valuable you would be willing to give up being the artist, musician, healer, comforter in order to own it? Are you thought about the path you’re on and what you’re becoming?” (my paraphrase of Matthew 16:26)*

**We never see each other anymore.**

**We’re under such pressure.**

**Step back into work Sunday evening.**

**What do you value?**

**What is your legacy?**

**What brings you joy?**

**To Learn and not to do is really not to learn.**

**To Know and not to do is really not to know.**

**To Believe and not to do is to despair.**

Blaise Pascal also observed, "We are never living, but hoping to live; and whilst we are always preparing to be happy, it is certain, we never shall be so, if we aspire to no other happiness than what can be enjoyed in this life."

### [Isaiah 29:16](#)

You turn things upside down, as if the **potter** were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, "You did not make me"? Can the pot say to the **potter**, "You know nothing"?

### [Isaiah 41:25](#)

"I have stirred up one from the north, and he comes— one from the rising sun who calls on my name. He treads on rulers as if they were mortar, as if he were a **potter** treading the clay.

[Isaiah 41:24-26](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 41](#) (Whole Chapter) [Other Translations](#)

### [Isaiah 45:9](#)

"Woe to those who quarrel with their Maker, those who are nothing but potsherds among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the **potter**, 'What are you making?' Does your work say, 'The **potter** has no hands'?

[Isaiah 45:8-10](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 45](#) (Whole Chapter) [Other Translations](#)

[Isaiah 64:8](#) Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the **potter**; we are all the work of your hand.

Written by Irenaeus from the 2nd Century.

### From God's Hands

It is not you who shape God;  
it is God that shapes you.  
If then you are the work of God,  
await the hand of the Artist  
who does all things in due season.  
Offer the Potter your heart,  
soft and tractable,  
and keep the form in which  
the Artist has fashioned you.  
Let your clay be moist,  
lest you grow hard and lose  
the imprint of the Potter's fingers.