

A Study of the Prophets

O.T. Survey Lesson 151--Jeremiah 18:1-23

Introduction: In this chapter Jeremiah seeks to impress his lessons upon his hearers by means a symbolic action. Just as the potter may fashion clay according to his will, so the Lord may do with the nations of men.

Lesson aim: To appreciate God's control of the nations, like clay in the potter's hands.

Judah will be clay in God's hands--18:1-17

1. To where did God instruct Jeremiah to go to receive a revelation from Him? (v. 2) What did Jeremiah see the potter do? (v. 3-4) What lesson did God draw from this? (v. 6)
2. List some of the things God could do with nations or kingdoms that illustrate that they are clay in his hands (v. 7-10)
3. What message then was Jeremiah to deliver to Judah? (v. 11) What did God plead with the people to do? (v. 11) What was their response? (v. 12)
4. How did God respond to the people's impenitence? (v. 11-17)

Jeremiah prays for judgment upon his persecutors--Jeremiah 18:18-23

1. What did the people plot to do to Jeremiah? (v. 18) On what basis did they decide this?
2. What did Jeremiah plead with the Lord to do? (v. 19) Why? (v. 20)
3. Upon what basis did Jeremiah hope that God would deliver him? (v. 20) What did he pray for the Lord to do to His enemies? (v. 21-22)

4. Did Jeremiah believe God already knew the dealings of the wicked? (v. 23)
5. Could you say that Jeremiah had learned to feel toward the wicked in their mistreatment of him the same way God felt in their their disobedience to Him? (v. 23)