

Divine Connections for Cracked Pots 2023

Part 1 Cracked Pots Defined

No that's not a typo; "cracked pots" is what I meant. Now, I know there are alternative possibilities like crackheads or crackpots, and I'm sure God has something to say to these folks, but they're not my focus today. No, today, I'm addressing vessels that are cracked and broken in the house of the Lord. Scripture tells us there are many kinds of vessels. Some are for honor and some are for dishonor. What would make a vessel fit for dishonorable use? Is there hope for a dishonorable vessel? Can anyone become a vessel of honor fit for the master's use? Our scripture for this study is 2 Tim 2:20 AMP

*But, in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also [utensils] of wood and earthenware, and some for honorable and noble [use] and some for menial and ignoble [use]. So **whoever** cleanses himself [from what is ignoble and unclean, who separates himself from contact with contaminating and corrupting influences] will [then himself] be a vessel set apart and **useful for honorable and noble purposes**, consecrated and profitable to the Master, fit and ready for any good work.*

This passage admonishes all believers to become vessels of honor. Notice it says "whoever". I believe this means that we all start out as vessels of dishonor. Now we're not talking about believer versus unbelievers. Vessels in the Master's house, I believe, are believers – otherwise they wouldn't be in the Master's house.

What do you think?

But, I'm getting ahead of myself. Let's start at the beginning. If the Bible really calls believers vessels or pots, what in Jewish culture would lead to such an analogy? Also, what would make a believer an unfit vessel?

What would make a believer an unclean vessel?

What in Jewish culture would lead to such an analogy?

What did they know about pottery that we don't?

Let's check it out. The Jewish culture used a variety of pots or vessels for many different purposes. They knew how the potter worked and what he did to fix the clay pots which sometimes cracked in the firing process. He was prepared for these cracks and well-equipped to fix them.

Many years ago, I had the privilege of learning about this process. I have always wanted to share this information with others. So today, I'm sharing this wonderful process with you, in the hopes that you too will be blessed as I was.

Please join me as I step into a potter's shop. We see the expected wheel, the lumps of clay, water and of course the potter. He's forming and shaping that special pot. Of course, every pot is special to the potter. These pots are his life's work.

He wants each pot to be the best example of his work. Unfortunately, when some pots are fired they crack. Today in our disposable society, we would just throw that pot away and concentrate on those that made it through the fire. But that's not the potter. No, he doesn't discard the cracked pots because he knows how to make them whole again. As we watch the potter, he does something strange. He

reaches under his workbench and retrieves a jar. To our amazement it isn't filled with dry clay. No, it's filled with insects. Yes that's right - insects. These aren't just any insects; these are very special insects called "Fasuka".

The Potter carefully removes one of these insects and crushes it between his two fingers until its crushed body and blood can be mixed with the clay to form the perfect remedy for the cracked pot. He fills the crack, smooths it out and places it back in the fire. Sometimes this process has to be repeated if the pot cracks again. Finally, all the cracks are repaired and the vessel is ready for service.

This reminds me of Jesus reading Isaiah 61:1 and declaring He has come to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up the bruised, and proclaim liberty to the captive. He shed his precious blood to make all this possible for us. Yet, he doesn't force this gift upon us. He gives us a choice. We read about this wonderful gift and our choice to receive or reject it in Acts 16:30 & 31.

...Men, what is necessary for me to do that I may be saved? And they answered, Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ [give yourself up to Him, take yourself out of your own keeping and entrust yourself into His keeping] and you will be saved, [and this applies both to] you and your household as well. AMP

So we see how easy God makes it for us. We simply have to believe and receive His gift of love on the cross for our salvation, and our spirit man is made brand new. We are now recreated vessels carrying the very Spirit of the living God within our hearts. We are now those vessels in the Master's house. Yet there is something else we must do to become useful for God's purpose.

You might ask what is that purpose?

Our purpose is to become ambassadors of His love to those around us.

So we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His appeal through us; we [as Christ's representatives] plead with you on behalf of Christ to be reconciled to God. 2 Cor 5:20 AMP

If we're to do this and fulfill our call, why do we have difficulties accomplishing this?

Let's go back to our potter's analogy and view vessels which come out of the kiln but still have seams which need sanding. These vessels can be used without sanding and without the glaze, but they are weaker in their unfinished state and less productive. The same is true of us believers. At our new birth, our spirit man gets recreated and made perfect, but our soul (our will, intellect and emotions) remains in its same unregenerated state. As a result, we are not as strong and productive as we might be. Now let's go back to our foundation scripture and see how we can cooperate with our maker to become all he intends for us to become.

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In closing, let's review. At our new birth, our spirit man is made brand new, but our soul (our intellect, will and emotions) remains the same. It needs to be renewed and transformed by the washing of God's Word. Romans 12:2 tells us:

And do not be conformed to this world [any longer with its superficial values and customs], but be transformed and progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you].

Part 2

God anoints all believers, His precious cracked pots, as conduits of His healing restorative love.

