

WORK IN PROGRESS



We are now living in an important time in our lives because constantly facing difficulties and challenges. There are tensions in the Middle East, with Israel and Iran going back between conflicts. We have a current Presidential administration focusing away from everything that was done in a God-way, to the best of the ability of what was done by now President Donald J. Trump, and it seems that although we are now in a different Gregorian calendar year, 2021, we continuously see the challenges covid presents for different states, different areas of the world, and leaders across. These times are filled with everything that we could probably think of, in terms of maybe what can go wrong, does go wrong. Also, day by day, the increase of tension between mankind among itself presents plausible challenges that also denote the importance of knowing that our faith plays an important part in the reaction of what we see in the world. The world seems somewhat different now than in 2020, especially when everything seemed to change with the coronavirus and the inevitable mask mandates across the globe.

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However, for all the changes that have happened, are happening, and will happen, we are going to examine an area that must be taken into consideration, especially during these troubling times. There is no doubt that mankind will do everything in its power to disrupt the life of any person, especially if said person does not share the same thoughts, beliefs, and political views. Now, the same can also be said about religious views because it enables mankind to control the very essence, and sometimes even get a person to question his or her beliefs from their upbringing. We need to be especially careful with everything going on around us because we cannot let ourselves slip into what man wants to do with us. Our focus should be, on what God and His Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, expect from us to do. We are not perfect by any means, and we try, pray, meditate, and take God's Word to heart as much as possible.

However, we are only just human, and we will come up short at times, if not, most of the time because we are physical beings, living in a physical world. However, the key distinction between us as God's called and chosen, and the rest of the world, is that we are part of God's plan to carry out His will, at His appointed time, and His proper timing. Brethren, we are constantly needing to change, in terms of how our inner self behaves with the rest of the world and from what satan and his demons try to do with us at any given moment. This article will center around how we as Christians are a work in progress because of how God works in our life, and how the mercy of His Son, Jesus the Christ, also allows us to be made to fulfill His will on this earth. We are a work in progress because it is the reason of why we were brought to this earth to begin with, and not be amongst the rest of the world in their ways. Even though most of us were not a part of God's church in our beginning, we can see how from many decades ago, in your own experiences, we have been set aside, and I will use a word now that will be used quite often during the reading today, we have been **molded**.

Being molded by God, Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit allows us to be who we are, and in essence, it allows us to know the difference between right and wrong, between the good and bad choices that we make in life, and, how we need to continue to grow in our lives daily, not just from one occasion to another, but every single day in our lives. We will look at one particular profession to present this analogy, and I am sure all of you at some point during your years in God's church have heard this, and it is through the analogy of the potter and clay. It is a very familiar analogy, yet it is something we sometimes take for granted because it is through the analogy of the potter and clay that we can learn many lessons that will serve as an instrument to guide us wherever we go.

Our life, our decision to get baptized and have hands laid upon us to receive the Holy Spirit, to follow God's

ways and instructions, and to uphold His truth are all part of different moments in our life where we were molded by God to have the events unfold in the first place. One reference that will be used as the main piece of the article today, is through the eyes of the prophet Jeremiah, specifically, Jeremiah, chapter 18. We will look at how the analogy and story of the potter and the clay serves as a guide for our life, just like it did during Jeremiah's time. The second point will focus on the biblical perspective of God how uses us as clay, in a symbolic meaning, to mold our life. Finally, we will look at the biblical perspective of the consequences that happen in our life when God, and our Messiah, Jesus the Christ mold our life.



I want to give a brief background on the story we will be looking at for today, and that is, what exactly is the job of a potter, but I am confident most of you know that already. According to Webster's Dictionary, the word potter has only one meaning, very simple:

1. One that makes pottery (a place where clayware is made and fired)

Also, the word potter has several meanings in the Strong's Concordance:

1. Strong's 3335 from the Hebrew word **yatsar** meaning: **to form, fashion**
2. Strong's 6353 from the Hebrew word **pechar** meaning: **a potter**
3. Strong's 2763 from the Greek word **kerameus** meaning: **a potter**

Now, according to the website, careerexplorer.com the career pathway to be a potter is divided up into the following: There is no formal education required, it is basically something you study as either having formal education in ceramics from an educational institution, or an apprenticeship that could last several years. Also, there is an in-depth study through individual workshops that can be taken at any time, and classes that are offered, depending on where you live. The average time to make pottery for example, is about 3 and a half weeks, depending on what you are making. The one aspect that differentiates a potter from all other traits is the amazing attention to detail that each potter must use, especially when it comes to making anything. There is a lot of patience, endurance, perseverance, waiting, and satisfaction given the result from any piece that is made. A potter crafts something from the very beginning, and each stage represents an important step to achieving what needs to be made. We can say the exact same thing regarding our spirituality. We are a work in progress because God is the potter in our life, and we will begin to see, just how God does in our lives, daily, to grow each day, and ultimately, become His work.

To set the stage for what is going on during this time in Jeremiah, chapter 18, two distinct events take place for Jeremiah. God speaks to Jeremiah directly, and informs him to go to the potter's house, and very valuable and important lessons for him and the people of Israel will be developed throughout the first several verses. Afterwards, a second event takes place for Jeremiah, and that is that after he does what God instructs him to do, he is then persecuted for preaching what God had asked him to do to the people of Israel. The people of Israel were being rebellious, going after foreign gods, forged in idolatry, and literally just not paying attention to what God had commended them to do. Therefore, God sends Jeremiah to preach the Word of what was to come, and uses this analogy of the potter to heed a warning to the people of Israel.

Reading Jeremiah 18:1-2 (Modern English Version):¹The 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." We read of the beginning of this chapter, the words that God mentions to Jeremiah, to go to the potter's house, and God even mentions that He has some words for Jeremiah, and something that will prove to be a valuable lesson and warning from God to Jeremiah. The situation with the people of Israel was not easy, and Jeremiah needed to hear this from God, at the exact moment when it happened, and understand the analogy that God had for him.

Let us continue in verses 3-4 in Jeremiah 18: ³ Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was making

something on the wheel. ⁴ Yet the vessel that he made of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. We read about the details of the potter in his house, in how Jeremiah witnessed that when something was being made, and it was spoiled, the potter immediately discarded the spoil to make something new. Notice how it is when Jeremiah arrived that his happened, and it was all done on purpose, as God intended it to be because of what God was going to say to Jeremiah.

Let us read verses 5-10 in Jeremiah 18: ⁵ Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying: ⁶ O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter? says the Lord. As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel. ⁷ At one moment I may speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it. ⁸ If that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to do to it. ⁹ Or at another moment I may speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom to build and to plant it. ¹⁰ If it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice then I will relent of the good with which I said I would bless it.

1. God mentions these words to Jeremiah to present the analogy of how just like the potter is in control of the ceramic he is building, so too is God forming and shaping our life brethren. The potter is in complete control of what is being shaped, how it is being shaped, when it is done, and for what purpose the vessel is being made in the first place. Jeremiah heard the words of God directly because God wanted to show Jeremiah the importance of letting the people of Israel know that He is in control of their destiny, and the same can be said about us today as well. God is the potter who molds our life, who is in control of our life, but it is our actions that directly tie in with what God shapes us to be.

If we are doing actions that are based for the good of our life, then God will continue to shape us for good. However, if we become centered around the world, what the world wants, and what mankind wants first before our Creator, then we cannot expect to be molded in accordance with God's wishes and desires for us. We do not want the good in our life to be taken away just because we choose to be on the wrong path, the wide gate as I am sure all of us know from the New Testament Scripture, and we must know that our mold and clay is part of what God wants us to be, in a spiritual sense. Our spiritual connection with God is molded through our daily actions, and we must understand the truth behind what God wants us to understand, especially when it comes to how we must be.

Read now verses 11-12: ¹¹ Now therefore speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Repent now, everyone from his evil way, and make your ways and your deeds good. ¹² But they say, "There is no hope! But we will walk after our own devices, and each of us will do according to the stubbornness of his evil heart." The words from God to Jeremiah, in terms of the message that is being sent to God applies as much in Jeremiah's time, as it does with us today as well. God gives a clear warning to the people of Judah, of what they are doing wrong, the things which need to change, from bad to good, and God is giving them the opportunity to change their hearts from their present course of action.

Our Heavenly Father is a merciful God, and He did not have to give them any warning whatsoever, the same applies to us today in our actions. God gives the instructions needed, yet the people of Israel decide that what they think is best (speaking of not following God's instructions and commandments and relying only on their self-knowledge), is the best thing possible. Mankind thinks that just because they have some knowledge in their minds, that they no longer need God at all, and this is a mistake seen all-too often in our world today. Just look at our society, in how everyone thinks that because one knowledgeable person, or group of people have an opinion about something, citizens automatically think they are correct, without regard or giving God the credit for the wisdom and understanding provided. The similarities between Jeremiah's time and our time are incredible. Thousands of years have passed by, yet mankind lets go of what God has done in their life and pursue

their own ways. We cannot allow mankind to mold our spiritual connection with God because that clay will spoil instantly. God molding our life creates the clay that is sustainable for everlasting life.

Let us continue and read God's response to the people of Israel, and read verses 13-17: ¹³Therefore thus says the Lord: Ask now among the nations, who has heard such things? The virgin of Israel has done a very horrible thing. ¹⁴Shall a man leave the snow of Lebanon, which comes from the rock of the field? Shall the cold flowing water that comes from another place be forsaken? ¹⁵Because My people have forgotten Me, they have burned incense to vain gods and they have stumbled in their ways from the ancient paths, to walk in bypaths, not on a highway, ¹⁶to make their land desolate, and a perpetual hissing; everyone who passes by shall be astonished and shake his head. ¹⁷I will scatter them before the enemy as with an east wind; I will show them the back and not the face in the day of their calamity.

These are truly unique, frightening, and remarkable words spoken by God to Jeremiah the prophet. God is perfectly clear with what would happen if Israel would not heed the warning from God through Jeremiah about repentance, and turning away from their own ways. The element of turning a nation into nothing, and that everyone that passes by would just be completely shocked at the destruction that would happen to the land of Judah, if the people would not choose to change their course in their lives. The analogy with the potter would be like having a complete ceramic structure made, and just letting it go from the base, and letting it fall completely on the floor, shattering into thousands of pieces, and a once great structure, now made nothing. This is what God wants us to do in our life as well. We are a continuous work in progress because we are shaped daily, through the choices we make in our life brethren. We have a choice because God gave us free will, but are we choosing to be molded by Him and His Son, Jesus the Christ? Or, are we placing our faith and trust in man, where the clay ruptures because it is imperfect, and not the centerpiece of our relationship with God? We must be in the correct mindset because every day that goes by in our life is something where we are shaped to be in God's ways or mankind's. We have to choose wisely, daily.

Reading now what happens to Jeremiah after prophesying the words God told him to give to the people of Israel, in verse 18: ¹⁸Then they said, "Come and let us devise plans against Jeremiah. For the law will not be lost from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come and let us strike him with the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words." The reaction and conspiracy against Jeremiah is something truly unique, and especially something that quite often would be a fate for all prophets, whether in the Old or New Testament. The chosen ones from God are always susceptible to being mistreated by mankind, and Jeremiah was no exception. The people of Israel, instead of paying attention to the warning from Jeremiah, which was the message of God, conspired against him to be persecuted. They did not want to hear anything associated with God; they just wanted their old ways to be the law of the land. They chose to be molded in their image, according to their false idols and ways. They felt they didn't need God; they wanted their own way.

What was Jeremiah's response to God with all this happening? Let us read verses 19-23: ¹⁹Give heed to me, O Lord, and listen to the voice of those who contend with me. ²⁰Shall evil be recompensed for good? For they have dug a pit for my soul. Remember that I stood before You to speak good for them, and to turn away Your wrath from them. ²¹Therefore, deliver up their children to the famine and pour out their blood by the power of the sword; and let their wives be bereaved of their children and become widows and let their men be put to death; let their young men be slain by the sword in battle. ²²Let a cry be heard from their houses, when You bring a troop suddenly upon them; for they have dug a pit to take me and hidden snares for my feet. ²³Yet, Lord, You know all their counsel against me to slay me. Do not forgive their iniquity nor blot out their sin from Your sight; but let them be overthrown before You; deal thus with them in the time of Your anger.

Jeremiah's response is something that would happen to us naturally, as we are human after all. Even Jeremiah, a great prophet, following God's Words, instructions, and commandments, and going where God sent him to go at any time, is something that is truly commendable. However, the response to God for wanting everything bad

to happen to the people of Israel is something we need to learn to leave in God's hands. I am sure it was not easy to be Jeremiah during his time on this physical earth, and same goes with us in our lives daily. It does not matter what mankind plans against us, what they think, what they speak, and even, what they do, we cannot allow ourselves to slip into what man wants us to do. We cannot be governed by mankind and its ways, to seek revenge for what can happen to us. We must leave everything in God's hands.

Deuteronomy 32:35 says: "Vengeance is Mine, and recompense; their foot will slip in due time; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things to come hasten upon them." We cannot expect to be molded in God's ways with revenge in mind all the time, we have to let God run His course in our lives and continue to shape us as we constantly are being shaped throughout the course of the actions we take in any given situation. Jeremiah's lesson and analogy of the potter reiterates the emphasis on God molding our life for the betterment of each one of us, always remember that. If you want to continue studying the course of events with Jeremiah, I invite you to read in your own time, Jeremiah, chapters 19 and 20 to get a better sense of what happened during his time, and read about the many interactions, warnings, messages, and persecutions he endured, and how God ministered in his life with everything going on around him.

Let us look at the second element for the reading today, and that is the examples throughout God's Word that we are the clay that is molded to what His will dictates in our life. The reason we are a work in progress is because the potter (in our case our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus the Christ) is because God wants us to understand that nothing can happen in our life without His blessing and approval. There are certain events, circumstances, and situations that can happen at any given time, and the actions we do, and the response to what is done to us, always goes hand in hand with the molding of our spiritual self. Clay is used in the Holy Scriptures as a symbolism of how God demonstrates His love for us because of the need that we cannot allow ourselves to slip and think that we can do everything by ourselves. There is no way, in fact, it is impossible to please God thinking that way. It does not matter how much we know, or often how much we think we know about something, and what to do, that we just forget about God. We cannot be like the people of Israel, and not pay attention to the warning given from Jeremiah. God wants us to be molded for good, never for evil, and that is something we need to learn and apply in our hearts.

Let us look first at the very beginning of where everything started, to the Book of Genesis 2:4-7: ⁴ This is the account^[a] of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ no shrub of the field was yet on the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground. ⁶ But a mist^[b] arose from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. ⁷ Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being.

The beginning of how God created mankind and giving us the breath of life in our lives served as the beginning of the molding in our lives. God created Adam and Eve to be the first people who would be inhabitants on the earth, and through the breath of life that God instilled in Adam, we know that God is in charge, and that God did the exact same thing with every one of us before we were created. God knew when and where we would be born, and also that He gave us life, and from our time in our mother's womb, we are able to be exemplified as the clay that is molded by His will.

When reading the Book of Isaiah 64:4-8: ⁴ For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by ear, neither has the eye seen a God besides You, who acts for the one who waits for Him. ⁵ You meet him who rejoices in doing righteousness, those who remember You in Your ways. Indeed, You were angry, for we had sinned; in *our sins* we remained a long time, and shall we be saved? ⁶ But we all are as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness is as filthy rags; and we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. ⁷ There is no one who calls on Your name, who stirs up himself to take hold of You; for You have hidden Your face from us and have consumed us because of our iniquities. ⁸ But now, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; and we all are the work of Your hand."

Isaiah presents the element of knowing that mankind does not know what God has in store for those who know Him. Also, we are the clay through which God, as the potter works in his clay, God works in us, throughout our lives. Isaiah understood that we all sin and come short of the glory of God. Yet, without hesitation, he presents us with the knowledge that God knows our sinful nature, yet, God continuously works in our lives, regardless of our past because He molds our very existence, from our present, to our future as well. Let us continue in the Book of Isaiah 45:5-9: ⁵I am the Lord and there is no other; there is no God besides Me. I strengthen you, though you have not known Me, ⁶ so that they may know from the rising of the sun and from the west that there is no one besides Me. I am the Lord, and there is no other; ⁷I form the light and create darkness; I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things. ⁸ Drip down, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds pour down righteousness; let the earth open up, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together. I, the Lord, have created it. ⁹ Woe to him who strives with his Maker, the potsherd with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to the potter, “What are you making?” Or the thing you are making say, “He has no hands”?

God created all things, all was done by His hands, and nothing happens without Him doing it, or allowing it in the first place. We read the words of the Lord to Isaiah, and telling him that He is our Creator, and that all that happens in this world, and in our lives, happens because of Him. Verse 9 mentions something very interesting, and quite honestly, something that we could all attest to in our lives. God mentions in the first part of verse 9 that: **Woe to him who strives with his Maker**”, meaning it is not wise at all to question why things happen in our lives the way they do. Then, in the last part of verse 9, it says: **“Shall the clay say to the potter, “What are you making?” Or the thing you are making say, “He has no hands”?** This is something that can happen to us because of our human nature, yet we must understand that we are a continuous work in progress because trials and tribulations are what shape us to be the people we are today. Everything happens for a reason, and it is God’s reason that we cannot question it because it is the way God is shaping our Christian character and inner self to be. Trust me, this is not an easy process because I am sure we are all thinking about certain situations in our life that we find ourselves questioning God by saying: *Why did this happen to me now? Why am I going through this? Will this ever end?*

Reading Isaiah 30:8-14: ⁸ Now go, write it before them on a tablet, and note it in a book, that it may serve in the time to come as a witness forever; ⁹ for this is a rebellious people, lying children, children who refuse to listen to the law of the Lord; ¹⁰ they say to the seers, “You must not see *visions*,” and to the prophets, “You must not prophesy to us right things; speak to us pleasant things, prophesy illusions. ¹¹ Get out of the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel.” ¹² Therefore, thus says the Holy One of Israel: Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness, and rely on them, ¹³ therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling up in a high wall, whose collapse comes suddenly, in an instant. ¹⁴ He shall break it as the breaking of the potter’s vessel that is broken in pieces; He shall not spare so that there shall not be found in the breaking of it a shard to take fire from the hearth or with which to take water out of a cistern.

Isaiah presents the example that most people want to take part of today. Most people, even in God’s churches, do not want to hear the truth, only that which satisfies *their* ears, and God can easily break them. We read that God can cause anything to be broken down, just like the potter’s vessel can be undone into a thousand pieces in an instant. God is a jealous and righteous God, and the Word of God cannot be taken for granted. There is a reason every single Book in the Bible is written the way it is, and it is for our own knowledge to know and seek His Word in our lives, daily. We cannot just pick and choose the good and nice Scriptures and think we live in a bubble or a type of utopia. No brethren, we must know the good, and the bad because God has provided it in His Scriptures for *our* own understanding, and to take heed to all that is provided in our spiritual food.

Reading now the Book of Lamentations 4:2: ² The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how they are esteemed as earthen pots, the work of a potter’s hands!” Jeremiah compares the people of Israel, made from

God's hands and will, to precious stones, an importance to Him because of what God provided for them in their time. The knowledge of the work of a potter's hands that we just read at the end of verse 2 is an important symbolism of what God does with us. We are the clay, just like physical Israel was, but instead, we are the Spiritual Israel, as God's elect, just like precious stones are made, we are the work of God's hands, as the potter in our life.

Let us look now at the third and final element for, and that is the biblical perspective of the consequences of God and His Son, Jesus the Christ, molding our life, and the application in our lives of this analogy of the potter as our work in progress. We are in constant changing in our lives, we grow a little bit more day by day, and we grow to the relationship God and our Messiah want us to have. We grow through our daily prayers, meditation, fasting, and application of God's Word in our lives. When we allow God and Christ to rule our life, there is no turning back to the old ways, yet we are imperfect as we go about in our life. However, with all our imperfections, God and Christ continue to mold our life because of the mercy shown by them to us when the most trying and difficult times come. There is no doubt that we must continue to strive for the betterment of ourselves, especially when it comes to developing the godly Christian character that enables us to be who we are in front of our Heavenly Father and Messiah. If we let them mold us to who they want us to be, there is nothing, no one, and absolutely nothing that can come in our way of that because God is developing us, always.

Let us read the Book of Romans 9:18-24: ¹⁸ Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and He hardens whom He wills. ¹⁹ You will then say to me, "Why does He yet find fault? For who can resist His will?" ²⁰ Rather, O man, who are you to answer back to God? Shall the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?" ²¹ Does the potter not have power over the clay to make from the same lump one vessel for honor and another for dishonor? ²² What if God, willing to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, ²³ in order to make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He previously prepared for glory, ²⁴ even us, whom He has called, not from the Jews only, but also from the Gentiles?"



God had a choice in our the potter, whether to show mercy, or to leave us in unrighteousness. This is a clear message for all of us because God could have left us out in the world, and not have called us when He did. However, He called us, out from the world, and into His truth and lovingkindness. What I mean by this is that God could have chosen to break our mold, and leave us out with the rest of the people who are not called, and who knows what that could have been for our lives. Yet, he demonstrates His mercy, and to choose the lump of vessel of honor is something we must all be taking into consideration, especially when it comes to developing our work in progress. We must continue to strive for the lump of honor, which ultimately leads to righteousness. The words here are perfectly lined up for all of us, God could have chosen to show His wrath, but rather, chose to have the patience for us in our lives, because we are all a work in progress towards righteousness.

2 Timothy 2:19-21 states that: ¹⁹ But the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who calls on the name of Christ depart from iniquity." ²⁰ In a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also those of wood and clay; some are for honor, and some for dishonor. ²¹ One who cleanses himself from these things will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, fit for the Master's use, and prepared for every good work." We need to cleanse ourselves unto righteousness, allowing God and Christ to work in us, daily, and get rid of the mold of dishonor and unrighteousness, and not let satan and his demons influence our decision-making process towards ourselves being the vessel for God's good work.

Turn back to the Book of Isaiah 29:13-16: ¹³ Therefore, the Lord said: Because this people draw near with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but have removed their hearts far from Me, and their fear toward Me is tradition by the precept of men, ¹⁴ therefore I will once again do a marvelous work among this people, even a

marvelous work and a wonder; for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hidden. ¹⁵ Woe to those who deeply hide their counsel from the Lord and whose works are done in the dark, and they say, “Who sees us?” and “Who knows us?” ¹⁶ Surely you turn things upside down! Shall the potter be esteemed as the potter’s clay? Shall what is made say to its maker, “He did not make me”? Or shall the thing formed say to him who formed it, “He has no understanding”?

Reading 2 Corinthians 4:5-6: ⁵ For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake. ⁶ For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” The words of Isaiah and present the ignorance found in people, especially when their heart is not truly into God’s Word and expectations He has for us. Also, Paul presents the point that the true nature of our calling, that we come out of darkness, and are molded to give God the glory and the honor always is something true and dear to our heart, at any given point in time.

Let us close in the Book of Matthew 7:15-20 (Here we will read about Christ’s warning and words regarding false prophets, and He paves the way for us to know and realize, the importance of bearing good fruits. We have to understand that we need to be molded on the path Christ was, and not into the bad fruit that is rotten from the world and from man): ¹⁵ “Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruit. Do men gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Even so, every good tree bears good fruit. But a corrupt tree bears evil fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear evil fruit, nor can a corrupt tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore, by their fruit you will know them. 🗨️

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