

Promise

- Promise to Israel:

- “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.”
Jeremiah 29:11-12

Jeremiah 18: 1-10

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

Then the word of the LORD came to me. 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.”

God is sovereign:

He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. (His Sovereignty on display) This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”

2 Timothy 1: 9-10

Pliable clay can be remade!

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Jeremiah 18:4-6

- **So how does this sovereignty, and God's plan for us, work when our own sin and brokenness abound?**

Remoulding the clay

“And the LORD said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.”

1 Samuel 8

Marred clay: sometimes we are responsible



King David:

- Anointed by Samuel as king
- Successful military campaigns
- Greatly revered by the people

- 2 Samuel 11-12: David “despised the word of the Lord.”

- Committed adultery
- Contracted the murder of Uriah
- Angered the Lord God

Psalm 51

David cries out to God:

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight...”

God redeems

Remember Psalm 103:12: **“as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.”**

Rayno and Teresa



Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukamaran



When sentenced as a ring-leader to death for his crimes, Andrew reconciled his death sentence with his faith and identity in God, saying:

"When I got back to my cell, I said, 'God, I asked you to set me free, not kill me.' God spoke to me and said, 'Andrew, I have set you free from the inside out, I have given you life. From that moment on I haven't stopped worshipping Him. I had never sung before, never led worship, until Jesus set me free.'"

Remoulding the clay: Matthew 1

“This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:... and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah’s wife”.

Matthew 1:1 &6

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then in verse 7: “Solomon the father of Rehoboam.”

Remoulding the clay:

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Romans 8:28