

## GOD SEEKS PEOPLE WHO ARE CLAY VESSELS

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2 Cor. 4:7

**"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."**

### I. INTRODUCTION

- A. God has always looked for people who are like clay vessels that allow themselves to be formed and even broken by the will of the Father; not that they are perfect in what they do but that they are moldable.

**Acts. 13:22 "...He made David their king. God testified concerning him: I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do."**

- B. These clay vessels that the Lord seeks understand that the ability to receive the new wine that comes from Him leads to constant breaking.

**2 Cor. 3:18 "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."**

- C. God is looking for leaders who contemplate His throne and His heart to the point that He is more than enough for us in such a way that they want to lose control of everything they can control.

**Phil. 3:8 "Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ."**

- D. One of the great hindrances in the leadership of the Pharisees was their desire to be in control, they did not want to lose their power or their position and that is something that we also have to be careful about..

**Jn. 12:19 "The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!"**

- E. Jesus is the greatest example of leadership, He was not desperate for the crowds but the crowds were a consequence of the message He spoke; being faithful to the message that the Father had given him caused growth to occur. Jesus was one with the Father and the message he had made his leadership and his fame increase.

**Jn. 8:28 "Then Jesus said to them: ...I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things."**

- F. When we focus on crowds we run the risk of missing the message God wants us to give. What draws crowds can drive away God's presence. Today in many places a gospel is being seen in reverse, but **what should give us hope is to reposition the gospel in the right place.** This is having a mature leadership that produces focused people for whom the most important

thing is that his kingdom is reflected in everything. The purer the message and the heart, the more support it has from God.

**1 Cor. 2:4-5 "And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, s that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.."**

**Rom. 1:16 " For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God..."**

## II. HOW TO TRANSITION

- A. We must start by evaluating what we have built so far, which will allow us to see how much of what we have built needs me or can work without me. If I can't stop doing what I'm doing today, it's because I made a mistake along the way.

**1 Cor. 3:13 "each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is"**

**Matt. 7:24-25 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock."**

- B. Many of us have had the idea that we teach our children to be children but in reality it is not like that because that is their nature. **We need to teach our children to be parents.** We cannot continue to domesticate our children when **God sees the role of leadership as purpose parenting.**

**Eph. 4:12-14a "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth..."**

- C. So evaluating what we have built allows us to see if we have fed children and they are still behaving like children; or we have exercised a design of parents that they will follow regardless of whether I am home or not.
- D. **The job of leadership is to be unemployed because everyone has been activated to carry out the work of the ministry. A good leader is one who begets good leaders and who takes second place because those who follow him become superior to himself.** This gives us the ability to have a decentralized power of my person and that it is centralized in Christ that is why the early church worked.

**Acts. 2:44-46 "ll the believers were together and had everything in common... 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts."**

### III. TAKING DRASTIC MEASURES

- A. Once we evaluate how we have built, we must rethink whether we destroy or rebuild; it's really hard to know how many leaders across the board would have the courage to destroy what they have built if they did it wrong. **The point is that if my image caused idolatry I need to destroy.** We were not created to be false gods or false images. **God is going to destroy everything that competes with his kingdom because for God it is a personal matter, it is about Him.**

**Is. 42:8 "I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols."**

**Psal. 115:1-3 "Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. <sup>2</sup> Why do the nations say "Where is their God?" <sup>3</sup> Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him."**

- B. It is a moment of awakening, it is like a son that we see who grew up in the house but strayed and now we want to do something. Many wonder how do I do it? How do I change the direction of all that we are? **It is time to dig for deep waters;** We have been in shallow waters long enough but there is a purity of the heart of Jesus that is only found with those who are digging deep.

**Phil. 3:13 "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead."**

- C. **God is looking for consistent leaders who speak the truth and live the truth every day.** He wants to guide us and that is the most beautiful.

**Jer. 32:39-41 "I will give them singleness of heart and action, so that they will always fear me and that all will then go well for them and for their children after them. <sup>40</sup> I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good to them, and I will inspire them to fear me, so that they will never turn away from me. <sup>41</sup> I will rejoice in doing them good and will assuredly plant them in this land with all my heart and soul."**

- D. In the church of Antioch there were prophets and teachers were fasting and worshipping together with the Holy Spirit, they were unanimously listening to the intervention of the Holy Spirit.

**Acts. 13:1-2 "Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers... <sup>2</sup> While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."**

- E. **In this season we need the intervention of the Holy Spirit as we have never seen it before.** We have had the Holy Spirit to act when we want but we need to re-position the Holy Spirit for the greatest move that we are going to see on the face of the earth. We are not going to be able to do it with our

own strength. This is a move of the Spirit so we need to connect with the Holy Spirit.

- F. **In all these changes we need to know that we cannot live in fear. You will not lose authority. The Holy Spirit is the one who guides your steps.** It is as if we were on the edge of a precipice that if we fall there comes the greatest outpouring of the Spirit on earth; First of all, there are three types of responses:
1. There are going to be leaders who are going to completely abandon themselves to the will of God because they want what happens when they do what God is saying.
  2. There are others who are going to doubt but are going to surrender.
  3. There are going to be others that Jesus Himself is going to come to push them to fall in that place.
- G. The idea is that either you respond or you stand aside because we will not be able to stop the outpouring of the Spirit of everything that the Father is wanting to do because God is going to do it again and there is our blessed hope.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

- A. Would you be willing to give up everything you built for the coming of his kingdom? That will give us a parameter to know if we are really willing to give everything so that He appears or I love more what I have built than what He wants to do on this earth.
- B. Those of us who know Him have told Him: You have my yes forever 'because the question is, what are we afraid of losing? But what are we really going to win? Because what I have built, that consumed my strength and that I lose is worth losing to win the King who is meek and humble of heart and who wants me by His side to reign with Him, then we can say to him: I want to lose everything.