

# **"Jars of Clay"**

RESTORE

By: Allen Coleman

06/16/12

## **I. INTRO**

- A. Pastor Jimmy
- B. The Sabbatical Plan

## **[2 Corinthians 4:7-11]**

## **II. [v8a] [AFFLICTED]**

- A. This is the book of Ruth.
- B. To suffer. Emotionally and physically.
- C. The idea is that something has acted upon him. Active not passive.

## **III. [v8b] [PERPLEXED]**

- A. Don't know what to do next
- B. Sometimes at an impasse
- C. Feeling lost, don't know the way out.

## **IV. [v9a] [PERSECUTED]**

- A. They persecute us
- B. They torment us

## **V. [v9b] [STRUCK-DOWN]**

- A. Literal physical blow by a weapon
- B. Knocked down

## **VI. [v10] [THE DEATH OF JESUS]**

- A. Endurance and suffering

### **B. SO THAT THE LIFE OF JESUS (Build)**

1. In "death" (our endurance and suffering) is intended to bring about resurrection life in us and in others.
2. James 1:2 - Count it all joy...it's for the better.

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## **VII. DEATH OF JESUS - LIFE OF JESUS**

### **A. AFFLICTED BUT NOT CRUSHED**

**[2 Corinthians 4:17 - *For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison . . .*]**

1. Still have room to breathe
2. Never without a way out
3. In his death, we're crushed by affliction.
4. But in his life, we're crushed by the weight of Glory.

### **B. PERPLEXED BUT NOT DRIVEN TO DESPAIR**

**[Ephesians 1:18-19 - . . . *having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might . . .*]**

1. But not to the point of surrender
2. But never to the point of being completely lost.
3. In His death, we despair with darkened hearts and minds
4. In His life, our hearts are enlightened to the hope He's called us to

### **C. PERSECUTED BUT NOT FORSAKEN**

**[1 Samuel 12:22 - *For the Lord will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself.*]**

1. Never abandoned
2. Never left to figure it out alone
3. In His death, we are forsaken and alone.
4. In His life,

### **D. STRUCK-DOWN BUT NOT DESTROYED**

**[1 Samuel 12:22 - *He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.*]**

1. knocked down...but not knocked out.

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## **VIII. FINAL RANT**

- A. Afflicted - Death of Jesus
  - 1. But Not Crushed - Life of Jesus
- B. Perplexed - Death of Jesus
  - 1. But Not Driven To Despair - Life of Jesus
- C. Persecuted - Death of Jesus
  - 1. But Not Forsaken - Life of Jesus
- D. Struck-Down - Death of Jesus
  - 1. But Not Destroyed - Life of Jesus

**[2 Corinthians 4:7]** - *But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.]*

**[VIDEO]** - *The Potter's Hands*

**[Psalm 23:1-3]** - *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.]*

## **IX. EXHORTATION**

- A. To Bill
  - 1. Preach hard and push mission
- B. To Jimmy - Pastor now
- C. To Church
  - 1. Don't down shift
- D. THANK YOU