

The Potter's Hope Romans 6:12-21

Introduction:

"We humans are like clay in one respect, we were made to be touched by the divine Potter. This is the deepest truth of our lives."

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

"God makes His plans for His people, and they are good plans that ultimately bring hope and peace. Therefore, there is no need to be afraid or discouraged." - Warren W. Wiersbe

I. There is a review of the choice to yield to the Potter. (V.12-14)

A. There is the hope we will reject Satan's service.

Romans 6:12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. (V.13) Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin:

"People have freedom to respond to God's purpose, and God has freedom to change His purpose in the context of their responses." - Roy Honeycutt Jr.

Psalm 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

B. There is the hope we will render service to the Savior.

Romans 6:13-14... but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. (V.14) For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

"Alive to His touch is the request of the Potter: responsive, approachable, and receptive to the image He is creating in you."

- We yield to His touch because He has our best interest at heart.
- We yield to His touch because He cares more for us than we care for ourselves.
- We yield to His touch because we know what we will gain is far superior to that which will be lost.
- We yield to His touch because what God has planned is nobility instead of instability, monumental instead of incidental.

II. There are the ramifications of the choice to yield to the Potter. (V.15-17)

A. Yielding to the Potter gives you freedom from sin. (V.15-16)

Romans 6:15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. (V.16) Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

"While kneading the clay, the Potter was careful to remove any small rocky pieces that he did not want to become a part of the whole. Through wonderful dexterity, a practiced touch, and a keen eye, the Potter worked until the clay reached a point of cohesive yielding." - Sam Sasser

B. Yielding to the Potter gives freedom to the Savior.

Romans 6:17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

"I want Christ to have the freedom in my life to do as He wishes, to make the wrong things right, to turn the sickness into health, and the spiritual poverty into spiritual wealth. I want to silence the voice of guilt, the grievous ghost of shame, and the nagging memories of the past. This can only be achieved by yielding to Christ."

III. There are the results of the choice to yield to the Potter. (V.18-21)

"I want to know that my life can count and make a difference, that in the end I can mean more to the world than just another statistic."

John 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

A. There is the degree of your yielding to the Potter.

Romans 6:18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. (V.19) I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

"The victorious Christian life is a series of new beginnings. No failure in our lives need be fatal or final, although we certainly suffer for our sins. God gave new beginnings to Abraham, Moses, David, Jonah, Peter, and He can do the same for us today."

- Alexander Whyte

Job 23:10 But he knoweth the way that I take:

B. There is the devotion of your yielding to the Potter.

Romans 6:20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. (V.21) What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.

Romans 6:22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. (V.23) For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.