

Jeremiah 19:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the LORD, Go and get a potter's earthen bottle, and take of the ancients of the people, and of the ancients of the priests;

Analysis

The earthen bottle (Hebrew 'baqbuq') symbolizes Judah's fragility and impending judgment. Unlike the potter's vessel in chapter 18 that could be reshaped, this baked clay bottle can only be shattered - representing judgment beyond repentance. The public nature of this prophecy (elders and priests as witnesses) emphasizes God's justice in giving clear warning before executing judgment.

Historical Context

The Valley of Hinnom (Tophet) was where child sacrifice occurred under wicked kings. Jeremiah's choice of this location for his prophetic act added powerful symbolism - the place of greatest sin becomes the scene of judgment's pronouncement.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. At what point does God's patience with sin reach its limit?

2. How should the reality of irreversible judgment shape our urgency in gospel proclamation?

Interlinear Text

רֹאשׁ	יֹצֵר	בְּקָרְבָּן	קְלֹת	יְתַחַת	לְוָךְ	יְהִי	רְאֵם	כְּהֵן
H3541	Thus saith	the LORD	Go	and get	bottle	a potter's	earthen	
H559		H3068	H1980	H7069	H1228	H3335		H2789
and of the ancients	of the people	and of the ancients	of the priests					
H2205	H5971	H2205	H3548					
וּמִזְמְרָנִים	וּמִזְמְרָנִים	וּמִזְמְרָנִים	וּמִזְמְרָנִים					

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 30:14 (Parallel theme): And he shall break it as the breaking of the potters' vessel that is broken in pieces; he shall not spare: so that there shall not be found in the bursting of it a sherd to take fire from the hearth, or to take water withal out of the pit.

Lamentations 4:2 (Parallel theme): The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!

Numbers 11:16 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee.