

A LESSON FROM THE PROPHET JEREMIAH (18:1-11)

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ‘Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.’ So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel.

The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had

intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 17:6-10 (SAID TOGETHER)

⁶ I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; *

incline your ear to me and hear my words.

⁷ Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, *

O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand
from those who rise up against them.

⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye; *

hide me under the shadow of your wings,

⁹ From the wicked who assault me, *

from my deadly enemies who surround me.

¹⁰ They have closed their heart to pity, *

and their mouth speaks proud things.

The Gospel According to John 12:24-28

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Those who love their life will lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

(People: Praise to You Lord Christ)