

**Pastor Shane Vaughn Teaches**  
***The Parables Of The Kingdom***  
***Part One***

This is part one of *The Parables of the Kingdom*. I'm Pastor Shane Vaughn of First Harvest Ministries. I want this series that I'm going to teach you, to revolutionize how you see the parables in the word of God/Yahweh. Most people do not realize that the parables in the Bible—Old Testament and New—are all pointing to the same story. It's really going to shock you when you realize the parables of the scripture point to the exact same story. In each segment of this series, I'm going to take one parable, and we're going to study it together. I'm going to show you the literal meaning of each parable. Let's go to the first one I'd like to teach you in the book of Jeremiah. Grab your Bibles and read along with me. Never believe anything I teach you. Always read it for yourself.

**Jeremiah 18:1-10 (KJV) The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD saying, 2 Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. 3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. 4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. 5 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 6 O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel. 7 At what instant shall I speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; 8 If that nation, against whom I have pronounced , turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. 9 And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; 10 If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.**

This is a parable; this is a story with a great image behind it. Unfortunately, because we do not understand the House of Israel, ministers who preach about this parable do a great injustice by spiritualizing it, rather than giving the literal, physical interpretation of this parable. Pastors use this parable to speak of our spiritual condition. While that application can always be made, it is not the meaning of this parable. I'm sure you've heard this parable preached, about how Yahweh can take you and put you on His wheel, and transform you. That makes for good preaching, but that is not the meaning of this parable.

I'd like to show you the true meaning. In this parable we have a potter, we have a workshop, and a lump of clay. The passage of scripture plainly tells us who the potter is: Yahweh. Who is the clay? Many preachers would say the clay is me and you. No. In this parable, the clay is a nation: the House of Israel. This parable is not about you, the individual. This parable is a national parable, and its meaning can be found by studying the events that resulted from Yahweh handling His nation. This is a parable about how Yahweh handles nations, specifically His nation.

Now, to understand the parable, we need to go back to where the potter—Yahweh—first handled the clay. That would have been at Mount Sinai where Moses brought His people out of the House of Egypt. This is the *first* time Yahweh is going to handle His clay. It's here at Sinai that the molding of the House of Israel began. In the book of Moses, or the Torah, there are recorded many statutes and judgments by which this nation was to be brought into shape. The purpose of Yahweh's commandments was not to make our life hard. It was to give us the tools by which to shape ourselves from a son of man to a son of Yahweh.

These commandments and statutes were to make the nation beautiful. It was to raise them up above the animals, and to raise them up above human beings. They were living like animals. These commandments were the hand of Yahweh, molding His people. There were laws of health that He gave,

what to eat, what not to eat. There was diet, finance, social relationships, all clearly laid down by the Torah.

This is the molding of the House of Israel through these commandments; all 613 that are found in the Torah. These are standards of conduct: how they should live their lives on a daily, consistent basis. This was instructions in holiness and instructions in righteousness; detailed instructions leaving no stone left unturned. In these instructions, they were given their duty to both Yahweh and to their fellow man, to enforce upon them the importance of service and kindness, and love. They were given severe punishment if they did not mold; severe punishment if they did not abide by this wonderful tool called the Torah.

When they first began to be molded, Yahweh was their king. He ruled over Israel through their prophets such as Moses, and their judges; and later, He ruled over them through their kings. This is the first time that the clay has gotten up on the wheel of the potter. While they were living in sin in Egypt, they could not get on the wheel. They were lost in sin. Whenever you or they come out of sin, transformation must begin, or a change on the potter's wheel. This is what happened to the House of Israel: As luck would have it, they began to be marred on the potter's wheel, and in this clay that He has been forming with His Torah, what does He see? He sees the first marring of that clay.

What was the marring of that clay? Idolatry. For five hundred years, Yahweh molded this nation, and under His righteous leaders, He taught them the right way under their pastors and under their shepherds. At times, this clay appeared to be taking shape; it appeared to be getting into line. It had promising success, but eventually the hard, rebellious clay began to twist and turn, and that meant the vessel that Yahweh was making was marred in the hand of the potter. Because of that, Israel forsook the Law of Yahweh. They rejected it. They rebelled against the restraining influence of the commandments of Yahweh; those restraining influences in our lives that force us to bend, and become something that we were not before we got on the potter's wheel.

They began to forsake the ordinances of worship; assembling themselves together. They began to rebel against the righteous ways of Yahweh, and that caused them to drift into the sensuality of idolatry. Then what happened? Just as the potter began to remove the twisted-made vessel from the wheel, so Yahweh ceased to mold Israel, and He cast them away from Him for a time. This is when the parable gets really interesting. Because they would not be molded and changed, they were of no value to the Master. He did not need a regular people; He needed a *holy* people. So He took them off of His wheel, and threw them in the potter's field. In other words, He divorced them. He put them away for a time.

The prophet Micah picks up on some of this parable, and he tells us that the prophetic vision was withdrawn from Israel when they went into idolatry in captivity. There is no indication in the scripture of the return of this divine gift until the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit returned to Israel. This is where the re-molding begins: on the day of Pentecost. The clay that Yahweh set aside and threw away, He set it aside for a season, and the potter said, "He made it again another vessel." He did not remake the same vessel He was working on; no. But according to the parable, *He made it again*. He took the same clay as the clay He threw away, but He was going to make a totally different, or another, vessel, *as it seemed good to the potter to make it*.

He now takes the same lump of clay and remolds it, working on it patiently, skillfully; and this time the clay begins to respond to the handiwork, and the potter makes a vessel that seems good, which is remnant Israel. He took the same clay, which is the descendants of Abraham. He took the same Lost Tribes of Israel, the same clay. But what He was going to make of them *this* time, would *not* be *natural* Israel. He would use natural Israel to create *remnant* Israel. The clay, or the nation, that He set aside; that same nation is re-formed. He does *not* take different clay. He doesn't take Gentile clay, no matter what your Christian churches have taught you. He is not remaking this vessel with Gentile clay. No, no, no, no!

He is remaking this vessel with the *same* clay, with the children of Abraham who were scattered across the world so much so that they could not be numbered. Because of their idolatry, they *thought* they were Gentiles. They lost their identity. They lived among the Gentiles until they could tell no difference between them and the Gentiles. So therefore, that's why the Christian church, not understanding this, believes that in this hour, that Yahweh is re-forming this out of Gentiles.

No! He's re-forming it out of the exact same clay, which is the Lost Tribes of the House of Israel. When His Holy Spirit calls that clay, in the book of Acts 2:38-39, when it speaks of the infilling of the Holy Spirit and being baptized in His Name, He says that there is a promise that is being given of the infilling of the Law of Yahweh in our minds. It's sometimes called the Ruach Hakodesh or the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 2:38-39 (KJV) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**

He tells us plainly that that promise is going to be given to *one* group of people. Who is *unto you* referring to? Those who were in His audience, which was the House of Judah: the Jewish people. Remember. The gospel is always to the Jew *first*, although they rejected it. It went to them first. Then Peter said there's a promise to those *afar off*. As Christians, we automatically think this is referring to the Gentiles.

We could never be further from the truth, which you'll learn if you go back and study the Lost Tribes of Israel—the natural bloodline and descendents of Abraham—the millions of them that were lost to the pages of history—until we found them. In my new series *Tracking The Tribes*, you can watch this series at our website: [fhtv.tv](http://fhtv.tv) and it will help you to understand. He said, “Those that are afar off.” As you study those tribes,

which are the northern tribes of the House of Israel, you will find they were always referred to in the prophets as, *those that were afar off*.

**Jeremiah 46:27 (KJV) But fear not thou, O my servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, O Israel: for, behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid.**

They were far off from the covenant of Yahweh. They had been rejected from the marriage covenant. Only the tribe of Judah remained in the marriage covenant. The rest were afar off. They were that clay that had been cast aside for a period of time, and now, the apostle Jeremiah says, that *this promise is unto you and to them that are afar off*: the Lost Tribes of Israel, the same clay. The same clay is going to be re-formed into a different vessel. Then, lest we think he's talking about *all* the Jews and *all* the Lost Tribes of Israel, he breaks it down further in verse thirty-nine of Acts, chapter two: *As many as Yahweh shall call*.

Now if you go back to your Bible you'll find that only a remnant of Israel is going to return to Yahweh. Their hearts are going to be turned back to the fathers, but only a remnant of Judah and Israel. Not all of them will turn back in this age. They will come in during the next age, but not this age. So he said this promise is to the Jew and the Lost Tribes, but *only* as many of them as Yahweh shall call. We know according to John 6:44, that He's not calling everyone. Many, but not everyone.

**John 6:44 (KJV) No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

Let's continue with the finishing of this parable. According to the parable, this nation, this holy nation—remnant Israel—will undergo a second phase in its history, and the result will be successful. That's what the parable is teaching us. Yahweh will still be the potter and He will still be planting His

Law; the same thing He used in the Old Testament. Remember what the prophet Jeremiah said.

**Jeremiah 31:33 (KJV) But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.**

He's using the *same* hands of His Torah, which is what we receive when we receive the Holy Spirit. That Spirit comes into our mind, and that process begins in this House of Israel, one more time. The lost sheep of the House of Israel are still the clay in His hand. He sent His Son to Earth, so that He might soften the clay. That is the purpose of the Holy Spirit in your life, in all of our lives collectively, to soften the clay.

If you've ever done any horticulture yard work, or planting, you know when you begin to dig and you run into clay, that you've got a problem. Why? Because it will hold the water and will not allow anything to permeate through it. The roots from your flowers can't get through that clay, so you have to mix that clay with sand. You also have to mix it with topsoil or nothing can be done with it.

Your clay is your flesh. When the Holy Spirit moves in, the first thing that He will begin to do is soften you. He will soften your animosity, your hate, your unkindness, your sharpness. He will begin to break your fallow ground, so that you can join the House of Israel and continue going round and round on that wheel. He has put his House of Israel back on the wheel on the day of Pentecost, and with His tender, bleeding hands: shaping and guiding us; forming us, re-forming us, bringing His pattern into us. He's molding us into the shape of His Son, Yahshua the Messiah, until it begins to appear as a vessel that is pleasing to Yahweh.

The great re-molding of the act of the potter has begun. In the end time, we are told that the voice of Elijah would go forth to prepare the way, turning the hearts of the children back to the apostolic hearts of the fathers of

Israel: Abraham, Jacob, and Isaac. Then this softening would begin, that would turn us back to where He always wanted us to be. The first vessel was natural Israel, marred by sin and idolatry. The second vessel will also be Israel; same clay, different vessel. It will be brought back to its normal condition by the redemption of Yahshua and the operation of the Holy Spirit.

Why did I want to break that parable down for you? Because, if we're not careful, we over spiritualize the parables, and we take away the meaning of its greater fulfillment. This has caused a great injustice towards the House of Israel. It's given rise to dispensationalism and replacement theology, for truly, the Christian church believes that Yahweh threw that clay away, and went and found new clay, and created something called the Church, while forgetting the natural descendents of Abraham.

That is why you must know the meaning of this parable. You must know that He put the clay away for a period of time—exactly for 2,520 years—until He puts you and your children: those that are afar off from the House of Judah, the House of Israel, back on the wheel—as many of them as Yahweh shall call. He'll put them back on the wheel, and He will create again the House of Israel, where we who were lost have been grafted back in; our identity reconfirmed, and revealed by the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

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