HELEN SANDERS 4-28-2025 REMODELLING

If you have ever remodeled a home, you know it takes time. It is often done while you are still living in the house.

There is dust, dirt, nails, and the mess created as the old is torn out to make room for the remodeled, fresh look. It is not comfortable living in a home while you are remodeling it, but the end results are worth it.

Did you know God is in the remodeling business? He works with clay. We are that clay. In Jeremiah 18:4 it tells of the process. The clay had been marred. It needed to be reworked. The verse says, "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."

If you ever worked with clay, you know to remake it, it must first be broken, then crushed, kneaded with water added to it, then remolded. Then it goes into the fire to "set" the clay. It is the only way to take the mar out of that clay.

The mar in this verse refers to Israel and its sin. God is the potter that made Israel the nation chosen for his covenant. Yet, Israel sinned and rebelled against God. This verse is telling us that God was going to put Israel through the process of restoring it to its beautiful condition that it had when it was first in covenant with God.

This scripture lets us know that God will work on us also, to reshape or remodel us. We are remolded into His image. It may be very painful as he works on us. The mess may be all around us, but you can be sure that Jeremiah 18:6 is what the end result will be. "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."

Just like Israel was in God's hands when we allow God to work in our lives this is what will happen. Jeremiah 29:11 says, "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 wants to bring us to perfection, to maturity, but it takes a lot of remodeling for most of us to get to that place. Be willing to let Him shape you into his likeness. The end result will be worth the process you must go through. Trust that God has a plan.