

Are You Mouldable?

“But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand”, Isaiah 64:8.

Pottery is the art of making porcelain, earthenware, or stoneware vessels, suitable for the transportation of various commodities.

Porcelain is generally very hard but very fragile. It is associated more with ‘showpiece’ china. Decorative and shiny on the outside, but very plain immediately under the outer veneer.

Earthenware can be as thin as bone china, and is easily chipped. It does not have the same strength as stoneware.

Stoneware is dense and generally inexpensive. If broken, it breaks with a conchoidal style fracture, where both sides are smooth.

As with man the three vessels above all come from the earth, and again, as with man all three vessels can get broken.

Regrettably, all three styles above are representative of the Christian living styles found in the world to day.

All three vessels have the pass through a fire to become useful, and again, as with man he also has to pass through the fire of redemption to be purified and useable.

The porcelain Christian is a person who has been lovingly shaped and fired.

Some, even though passing through the trials of life daily, remain as a priceless piece of porcelain.

Used day by day by God, they become a showpiece for God. Their mirror like surface reflecting God’s Presence in their lives.

Others prefer to remain as display pieces. They become as ‘prized possessions’, on a shelf for all to see and admire.

They collect dust, and when disturbed by the duster, can fall and shatter.

The earthenware Christian is a person who has been lovingly shaped and fired.

Passing through the trials of life daily, their semi-mirror like surface continues to reflect God’s Presence in their lives.

Their passion for promoting God’s Living in their daily chores does not give them time to become a show piece on a shelf to be seen and collect dust.

Because of their daily activity in God's calling for them, they do become chipped, but remain useable.

The stoneware Christian. Stoneware is made from denser style of clay, and is, therefore, regarded as being able to hold a larger load. Thus the stoneware Christian is often looked at as being more useable.

This is borne out with the way our Lord used earthen vessels to produce 'something out of this world'!

At a wedding taking place in Cana of Galilee, the worst that could happen, happened. They ran out of wine.

Each of the waterpots would have contained about twenty gallons apiece, when filled to the brim as Jesus commanded.

The wine made by Jesus, according to the host, was the BEST.

Thus, the stoneware Christian, filled to the brim, is always able to give out the best in an unlimited way.

God moulds us, and fills us.