



WORDS, A TWIG, AND A POT

How God prepares us to be ready for what He will do, and how He expects us to be ready too.



EXPECTATIONS

What's coming?

- See the relationship between God's hands and His word
- See how ready God is to perform His word
- Find comfort in uncomfortable truths
- Ready ourselves for His work in this world



QUICK POLL

Used by God?

JEREMIAH 1:9-10

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

1 KINGS 8:24

You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father; You have both spoken with Your mouth and fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day.

1. What is the connection here between God's 'words' and God's 'hands'?
2. What God says (with His mouth) He will do through us by His hands
3. We need to position our lives, so they are fed by the rivers of God's Word – Psalm 1, 1 Peter 2:2

JEREMIAH 1:10

“See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

- Proverbs 22:29 – Excellence brings us before kings
- Who had set the direction and extent of Jeremiah’s life/ministry? And yours?

JEREMIAH 1:10

“See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

- Ministry (and we all have one) is both taking apart AND building (creating now). It is also planting (sowing for the future)
- It is a work which is done towards both the world AND believers (2 Cor. 5:18, 2 Tim. 3:16)



QUICK POLL

Ministry?

JEREMIAH 1:11-12

Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Jeremiah, what do you see?” And I said, “I see a branch of an almond tree.”¹² Then the Lord said to me, “You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word.”

- ‘branch’ from Hebrew, meaning to be watchful. It is the earliest flowering fruit tree in Israel (Jan/Feb) and brings with it a sense of readiness and anticipation for the coming spring season

JEREMIAH 1:11-12

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- Do we know the times/days when God will fulfil His promises to us/others?
- Do we know the time/day when Jesus will return?
- What should our answer be to the question of ‘When will God do this/that’? (Acts 1:7)

TIME TO MOVE

Speaking Out For God

- God gives us the words He expects us to say
- We find these in the Bible
- He also does what He says He will do by His strength and often through our weakness
- Doing everything with excellence often means doing less than others but doing it better than anyone
- Ministry (your life as a Christian) involves both taking down AND building up (now and future)
- It is not for us to know WHEN but to take God at His word and live it as truth today.