

Forged in Fire

Jeremiah 18:1-6



Definition: Forge

“make or shape (a metal object) by heating it in a fire or furnace and hammering it.”



God's word brings alignment in our lives

Acts 17:11

¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Jer 23:29

“Is not my word like **fire**,” declares the LORD, “and like a **hammer** that breaks a rock in pieces?”



The house of God is God's workshop

Psalms 92:12-13

**The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;
planted in the house of the LORD,
they will flourish in the courts of our God**

We are God's Project

1 Peter 2:4-5

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

The making process is the breaking process.

Hosea 6:1

“Come, let us return to the LORD.

He has torn us to pieces

but he will heal us;

he has injured us

but he will bind up our wounds

God always completes His Projects

Philippians 1:6

⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Job 14:7-9

“For there is hope for a tree,
If it is cut down, that it will sprout again,
And that its tender shoots will not cease.
⁸ Though its root may grow old in the earth,
And its stump may die in the ground,
⁹ *Yet* at the scent of water it will bud
And bring forth branches like a plant



1. Wedging Stage

- Wedging helps remove air bubbles.*
- It helps create a consistent mixture.*
- At this stage the clay has no shape*

1 Samuel 22:2

² Then others began coming—men who were in trouble or in debt or who were just discontented—until David was the captain of about 400 men.

1 Samuel 23:8-11

These *are* the names of the mighty men whom David had: Josheb-Basshebeth the Tachmonite, chief among ^lthe captains. He was called Adino the Eznite, because he had killed eight hundred men at one time ...

2. Molding Stage



- The potter molds the clay as it rotates on the wheel.
- The clay begins to take shape.

Philippians 2:13

for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

3. Drying Stage

A collection of various white ceramic pots and bowls arranged on a wooden surface. The items include several shallow bowls, a few deeper pots, and a mug with a handle. The background is slightly blurred, showing a wooden structure and a white plastic bag. The overall scene is well-lit, suggesting an outdoor or semi-outdoor drying area.

- Pots are put away from direct sun to dry slowly.

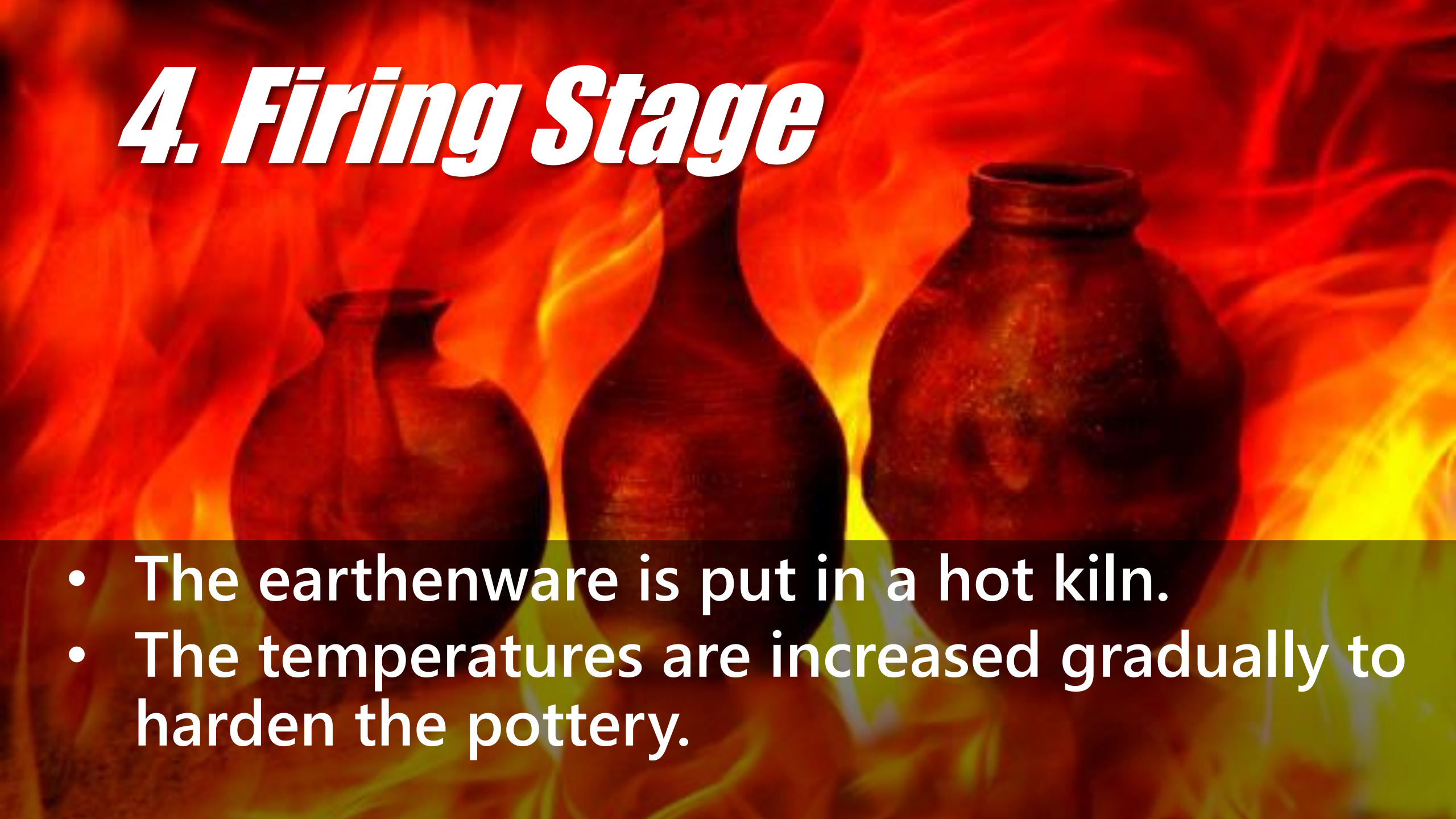
Seasons of silence

1 Samuel 16:13,19

¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

¹⁹ Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, "Send me your son David, who *is* with the sheep.

4. Firing Stage

- 
- The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of three earthenware pots inside a kiln. The pots are dark brown and appear to be made of clay. They are arranged in a row, with the smallest on the left, a medium-sized one in the center, and the largest on the right. The background is filled with bright, intense flames in shades of orange, red, and yellow, creating a dramatic and high-contrast scene. The lighting is focused on the pots, highlighting their rounded shapes and the texture of the clay.
- The earthenware is put in a hot kiln.
 - The temperatures are increased gradually to harden the pottery.

Isaiah 48:10

Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

(Many people give up during the firing stage)

5. Glazing Stage (Decorating)



- The potter paints the earthenware with beautiful patterns.
- The painting hides the rough process.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 18:6

“O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?” says the Lord. “Look, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!”

Isaiah 45:9

**“Woe to those who quarrel with their Maker,
those who are nothing but potsherds
among the potsherds on the ground.
Does the clay say to the potter,
‘What are you making?’
Does your work say,
‘The potter has no hands’?”**