





be

*eager*

to do good works

Titus 2:14



# VESSELS OF HONOR

2 Timothy 2:20-21

# VESSELS OF HONOR

A row of five different drinking vessels is shown against a dark background. From left to right: a wooden cup with a natural grain, a light-colored ceramic mug, a clear wine glass with a stem, a clear plastic cup, and a dark metal cup. The vessels are arranged in a slightly overlapping line, receding into the background.

**20** *Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable.*

- **A metaphor contrasting the character of two types of Christians**

# VESSELS OF HONOR

**20** *Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable.*

- A metaphor contrasting the character of two types of Christians
- **dishonorable** – those like Hymenaeus and Philetus (14-19)
  - “quarrel about words... ruins the hearers”
  - “irreverent babble... lead people into more and more ungodliness”
  - “their talk will spread like gangrene”
  - “swerved from the truth... upsetting the faith of some”
- “The Lord knows those who are His...”
  - “...among whom are **Hymenaeus** and Alexander, whom **I have handed over to Satan** that they may learn not to blaspheme.” (1 Tim. 1:20)

# VESSELS OF HONOR

**20** *Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for **honorable** use, some for dishonorable.*

- **honorable** – those faithful like Timothy
  - Those who “do your best to present yourselves to God as one approved”
  - “a worker who has no need to be ashamed”
  - “rightly handling the word of truth”
- “Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from **iniquity.**”
  - **iniquity** - unrighteousness, as a violation of God's standards which brings divine disapproval; lawlessness

Work to rightly handle the word of truth and reject those who swerve from it

# VESSELS OF HONOR

A row of various glass vessels including a tumbler, a wine glass, a highball glass, and a shot glass, arranged on a wooden surface.

**21** *Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.*

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- **We can move from one group to the other (cf. Rom. 9:22-24)**
  - “And such *were* some of you. *But* you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” **(1 Cor. 6:11)**
  - “Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts...” **(James 4:8)**
  - “Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth...” **(1 Pet. 1:22)**
  - If we walk in the light “the blood of Jesus... cleanses us from all sin” **(1 Jn. 1:7)**
  - “Since we have these promises, beloved, *let us cleanse ourselves* from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.” **(2 Cor. 7:1)**



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**21** *Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, **set apart as holy**, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.*

- **set apart as holy** – sanctified; dedicated to God

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- **set apart as holy** – sanctified; dedicated to God
- **useful to the master** – suitable for His purposes

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- **set apart as holy** – sanctified; dedicated to God
- **useful to the master** – suitable for His purposes
- **ready for every good work** – fully equipped for God's service

attending services  
praying regularly  
studying scripture  
giving generously  
sharing the gospel

caring for the poor  
treating others justly  
loving our neighbors  
truly love each other  
show hospitality

be patient in tribulation  
associate with the lowly  
do what is honorable in  
the sight of all  
live peaceably with all



*ready for every good work*

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2 Timothy 2:20-21

