

HAVE THINE OWN WAY, LORD

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!"

Many readers of this are unfamiliar with the old hymns of the church. You may be more familiar with Hillsong, Don Moen and other modern worship music. There is nothing wrong with today's worship choruses. There is also nothing wrong with the hymns of the church that were sung by your parents and grandparents, and many generations prior to them. Our title today is the title of a hymn published in 1906 by Adelaide Procter. She wrote:

Have thine own way, Lord. Have thine own way.
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after they will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

You may see the year "1906," laugh, and stop reading this devotional because it is too old fashioned. But, remember, the last portions of your Bible were written nearly 2,000 years ago. God has been inspiring Bible authors and hymn writers to convey his messages to us for thousands of years. If you scoff at anything written more than fifty years ago, you are ignoring everything God has to say to us.

This hymn constitutes Miss Procter's personal testimony after she read the verse in Jeremiah. She realized that although her desire was to serve God on the mission field, God had other plans for her. Then she was able to tell God that she really wanted nothing more or less, than to be like a lump of clay that he could form into whatever he needed her to be. That should be our testimony, as well. You may have dreams, desires and plans for your life that are not the same as God's plans for you. It is good to have dreams and plans, but ultimately you will find more peace and more blessings if you adopt God's plan for your life. The song's fourth verse reads:

Have thine own way, Lord. Have thine own way.
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see,
Christ, only, always living in me!

Think about it. Is this your testimony? Does this reflect your submission to God's plan for your life? Or, does the fact that it was written more than 100 years ago, compel you to ignore it as being too old fashioned?

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