

2 Tim 2:20-21

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

The following is from a search I did on the internet: *When the hammer came down on the extraordinary sale of a bottle of 1869 Château Lafite, history was made. Estimated to reach \$8,000, it sold for \$233,972, making it the most expensive 750ml bottle of wine on the planet.*

Wow, could you imagine paying \$233,972.00 for a bottle of wine? Under what conditions would you pop the cork on this bottle and drink it, and if you did what type of wine glass would you drink it out of? How about a \$3,750.00 wine glass. That's right, my internet search found that as well. I'm sure you may be able to find a more expensive wine glass, but let's get into today's devotional which has to do with this expensive bottle of wine and wine glass.

What if the owner of this \$233,972.00 bottle of wine decide to pour it into an old, cracked, weathered, chipped, coffee cup that he got at a yard sale? This would not be any old coffee cup, but one that he created with his own hands and was one of his prized creations. But one night someone broke into his shop and stole all his coffee cups that he had created. But he happened to come across it at a yard sale and bought it for a quarter. He could tell it had been through the wringer, with all the cracks, and chips, and the beautiful artwork on the outside worn down and faded.

Inside it was stained with different drinks that the cup was filled with at one time or another, and the creator of the cup knew just how to remove the stains without damaging the cup any further, and the stains would not return.

So in celebration of finding his coffee cup, he opens this \$233,972.00 bottle of wine and pours the wine into this old worn out coffee cup. He then passes it around to his friends to experience the taste of this wonderful wine. Some refuse because of the cup that's holding the wine, these poor people don't realize that the container does not affect the wonderful taste of this wine, yet they are too proud to drink this \$233,972.00 wine because of the cup holding it.

I'm sure you have heard stories like this before representing Christianity, but you need to stop for a moment and realize that we are those old cracked, chipped, worn out, stained cups, and we know that, but we seem to forget what the Lord has cleansed us from and what He has filled us with. Or maybe you know that you have been filled with by the Lord, but you think that you are no use because of

your past or even your present. Sometimes we base our service to others on what we look like on the outside.

God saw you as special enough to fill you so that you could pour into others. Today it's time to stop making excuses and trying to be self humble by saying you're not good enough, because by doing so you are denying that the Lord has cleansed you, and He has called you special, and has filled you with what He wants you to share with others.

What He has filled you with is priceless and a \$233,972.00 bottle of wine doesn't even come close to what you are filled with.

† *Acts 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.*

† *He will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.*