

# JONAH (Part 2 - A warning preceded x) An object lesson)

Prayer - Time, Pardon, forgiveness in JC.

HYMN - 118(3) Tune (44).

Item - Attributes of God.

Reading - Jonah 3.

- Jonah is saved - VOMITED onto land.

- So once again Jonah ~~was~~ told to preach to Nineveh.

(This shows the forgiveness of God  
Not only was Jonah delivered, but  
had the privilege of serving God again)

- See how God can turn an 'iron neck' (Isaiah 48.4)  
by His overstable grace.

Jonah is not slow to obey now!  
(But God still has work to do with Jonah).

- Nineveh:

This city was huge!

Much larger than Babylon



150 furlongs long (13 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles) long  
90 furlongs wide (11 $\frac{1}{4}$  miles) wide  
480 furlongs around (60 miles) around  
Walls 100 feet high (30 m) high  
(3 chariots abreast) ~~(3000)~~

1500 towers  
(each 200 feet high) (60 m) high

- It took 3 days for Jonah to walk  
through all its principle main streets.

- He cried "Yet 40 days and Nineveh shall be  
destroyed"

- The prophecy of God not only reveals the outcome of events -

But all possible outcomes -

This would ~~also~~ surely come to pass if Nineveh didn't turn to the Lord.

- So like McConscience in the city of Marsool Jonah cries.

"If you don't repent & come to the Lord you will be eternally lost!"

- It must be destroyed like Sodom by a stroke from God<sup>th</sup>

• who knows - earthquake  
fire & brimstone

- Nineveh was surely ripe for destruction.

The knew nothing of God's ways & followed pagan gods.

- They were given - In God's mercy - 40 DAYS.

- This is a time of testing

God is slow to anger and plentiful in mercy

- He gives warnings

- Warnings are good.

IV fire alarm!

- We cannot even be sure we have 40 days!

But we can be sure of Death & the Judgement

- We would be alarmed if told we have only a month to live!

• But we ~~cannot~~ are careless about our souls even though we cannot be sure to have another day!

- We always think we have another day. That's a trick of the deceiver.

- At the beginning of our lives we think death is far.  
At the end we think it is nearer <sup>(Amos 6.3)</sup>  
- But we always think we have another day.

- But tomorrow is promised to no-one.

- At the beginning of life Satan says  
"It's too soon to turn to the Lord"

At the end he says  
"It's too late."

He's a cruel counselor.

- They had 40 days - but we cannot be sure of the next month.

When I was growing up a friend of mine died suddenly in a car crash.

We cannot even be sure of the next hour.

- The most common cause of death in 15-19 yr olds is accidents (injury or poisoning) then suicide.

People have died most unexpectedly

- Death ~~is~~ is usually not expected.

(Last Words of S&S P.35).

- But Nineveh Repented.

- 1) They believed God.
- 2) They brought Word to the King.
- 3) The King set a good example - humble humiliation
- 4) The People conformed to the example.
- 5) A general fast was proclaimed. Denied themselves.
  - i) strictly observed
  - ii) with the fast - Prayer x supplication. (petition)
  - iii) with the fast x Prayer - reformation x amendment of life.

- What reason did they have to hope.  
"Who can tell if God will turn and repent"

- He says
- God sees and takes notice.  
Don't think your prayers are in vain.  
As Nineveh was justified so too you. - Go see, salvation maybe yours!

## - Chap 4.

He we have a curious thing  
(I said God was not finished with Jonah)  
Christians are sinners saved (sin power is broken) but sinners still. (but we are not sinners)  
We are a work in progress.

## - Jonah is displeased!

- He's still proud & nationalistic  
(sees this as a rejection of Israel).

- God moulds us even through times of rebellion and backsliding.

[id] (escalator)

## - He was angry.

Be careful of sinful anger

- It is conceived & born of PRIDE
- And it grows like an evil child
- Soon ~~small~~ it'll be uncontrollable
- And when grown it can itself give birth to Hatred & even Murder!

- This was the sin of the Pharisees when they saw the Lord conversing with publicans and sinners.

- # V2 - He seems to adopt his old thinking (This is what I feared!)  
(This can happen to a Christian Go back to his old ways) / sin like a dog returning to its vomit! (This is vomited onto land.)

- This pride & backsliding makes him deeply unhappy. suicidal

- Beware of wrong thoughts against God and his ways.
  - They make miserable.
  - They are bound to be incorrect. (They come from misunderstanding from lies & deceit)
  - From the Father of lies  
We can see the Devil's hand in this though he's not mentioned.
- Does he not throw tempting/decieving thoughts into our minds  
(Don't catch them and open them. They're like junk mail - shred it!)
- Jonah opened them! Read & believed!  
He gets into such a depressed state  
- He's suicidal! v3
- But see the LORD's compassion  
Jonah had run from God  
Then had a great deliverance & brought back given service  
But then in petulance he talks back to God!
- Any reasonable Parent would be justified in righteous indignation.
- But God is longsuffering. slow to anger seeks to bring Jonah into a right understanding and take away his pride.
- "Doest thou well to be angry?"
- The question is one for us
  - Are we angry at God?
  - Are we displeased at the events of life?

- Think! Are you right?  
Are you doing well in this?

What have you done for God?

Do you deserve blessing? Are you proud or disobedient?

- Jonah leaves these dear new converts of Nineveh

Makes a booth (small shelter)

• A person living distant from God

lives a 'small selfish life'

Just concerned with his own affairs.

- The Lord gives him an OBJECT lesson

• He provides a 'COURD' to shelter him

(This is the God's material provisions/blessings

Man doesn't deserve them, but enjoys the benefits

but ~~and~~ can learn to love them too much)

- If this is all a man has grown to live for (in 'small' life with no concern for others)  
shouldn't complain if taken away.

- The Lord <sup>had</sup> prepared the wind of tempest  
then the great fish

Now a worm.

(How we should respect & reverence such a  
God who orders and directs all things!)

- The 'Courd' withers.

- Again God prepares a wind

(Not the same as before - He uses many means -

Now a hot vehement east wind

a drying and parching wind with the sun)

• It made Jonah faint.

- Again see God's power over nature - even our bodies.

• In a back-hidden state trouble will abound.

- He's had blessing (of Covid), now he's reaping the whirlwind, and both come from the LORD (Job 1.21, 2.10)

- Be mindful of this (Blessings & Troubles)
- Be wise
- Come to ~~know~~ God - walk in obedience (Trust & obey!)

- Once again Jonah wishes to die (Despising the gift of life!)  
Once again the Lord replies

"Doest thou well to be angry about the Covid?"

- Are we doing well when we are angry about trials & afflictions? in life?  
Do we learn the fiery lessons of affliction?

- If we are stubborn - the Lord may have painful ones.

- Once again Jonah talks back to God!

Once again the Lord has such patience and forbearance, like a mother with a child.

Not like a person saying 'I won't tell you twice!'  
As well they might.

- Then the lesson is given - (4.10, 11)  
(sometimes we only learn by experience)  
we're so foolish

• Don't wait for painful chastisements to correct you - Learn NOW!

- What is the lesson of the 'Covid'?

• Jonah had more pity on a plant than on human beings.

(Do we love our car, distraught if it gets dented but care nothing for others around us?)

2) Jonah was very proud & prejudiced  
against gentiles. (very nationalistic)

He was a little self righteous

He had to realize - Salvation is all of Grace  
and completely undeserved.

(He didn't deserve it because was Jew)  
We don't because we go to church etc  
or from Christian family

- The only reason it's there at all is because  
of that - GOD-MAN Jesus Christ  
His life & death.

You can be saved on His merits  
because he was punished for men's sins.