

JONAH

A Study about the Heart of Man
by Dr. Joe K. Taylor

Jonah--The Pouting Prophet

Revival: It Pleased God but Not Jonah Jonah 4:1-3 (Part One)

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • OCTOBER 30, 2016
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible: Page 852-853.
In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in bold faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the lighter faced text.

Review from Last Week

1. God's Word is our standard for all things.
2. Obedience to God is always important.
3. Obedience to God is not always easy.
4. Obedience to God is simple, in some ways.
5. Obedience to God produces eternal results.
6. Obedience to God allows us to see His greatness.
7. God cares *where* your heart says "yes" to His will.



Jonah's Twofold Complaint:

1. Jonah Pouted About God Sparing Nineveh

Jonah 4:1-3, NLT -¹ *This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry.* ² *So he complained to the LORD about it: "Didn't I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people.* ³ *Just kill me now, LORD! I'd rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen."*

For the second time in this account, Jonah prays, but his second prayer was much different in content and intent. He prayed his best prayer in the worst place, the fish's belly, and he prayed his worst prayer in the best place, at Nineveh where God was working. His first prayer came from a broken heart, but his second prayer came from an angry heart. In his first prayer, he asked God to save him, but in his second prayer, he asked God to take his life! Once again, Jonah would rather die than not have his own way. -Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe

JONAH - Life Application Section

1. Observations about us.

A. We are so selfish.

Jonah 4:1, NLT -¹ *This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry.*

B. We complain a lot.

Jonah 4:2a, NLT -² *So he complained to the LORD about it: "Didn't I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD?"*

C. We think we know more than God.

Jonah 4:2a, 3, NLT -² *So... That is why I ran away to Tarshish!...³ Just kill me now, LORD! I'd rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen."*

2. Observations about God.

Jonah 4:2c, NLT -² *I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people.*

A. God is so merciful.

Hebrews 4:16, NIV84 -¹⁶ *Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

B. God is so compassionate.

Isaiah 30:18, NIV -¹⁸ *Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion.*

C. God is so slow to anger.

Psalms 86:15, NASB95 -¹⁵ *But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, Slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness and truth.*

D. God is so loving.

Deuteronomy 7:9, NIV -⁹ *Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.*

E. God is so eager not to destroy.

Jonah 4:2, NIV -² *I knew that you are...a God who relents from sending calamity.*