a. In this statement the king had a better understanding of the heart of God than the prophet did!

5.) The Lord showed grace to the people of Nineveh! V10

- A. Just as Jonah was shown unmerited grace in chapter 2 the Lord showed the same grace to the people.
- B. The Lord saw what they did and I believe it brought joy to his heart!
- C. The Lord always desired repentance over destruction!

"9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

Closing Questions!

- 1.) Have you come to a point where you need God's grace and mercy in your life? Are you willing to cry out a cry of need and dependency on him?
- 2.) Do you want to be used by the Lord? Are you willing to speak hard truths to those that you know for the sake of seeing them come to know Christ?
- 3.) Do we need personal repentance in our lives, families, and church before we call on the world to do it?
- 4.) Who are the three people in your life that you are willing to invest time into, invite, and pray for?

"Called"

'Jonah Obeys and God gets the glory!'

Jonah 3

Pastor Dan

"The depth of our prayers is usually in direct proportion to the depth of our agony. When we are driven to the edge of despair we find ourselves storming the gates of heaven with a boldness, an intensity and a power we never knew we had.¹."-Bob Maccurelle

1.) Jonah got a second chance! V1

- A. The Word of the Lord came to Jonah!
 - a. In Jonah's prayer in chapter 2 he prayed to see God's holy temple again and to hear his voice. Now the Lord is speaking to Jonah and the prophet is listening!
 - b. We can't expect people to listen to that which we do not listen or obey ourselves!
- B. Jonah was most likely confused and filled with questions!
 - a. Was the Lord done with him?
 - b. Would he hear God's voice again?
 - c. Was he himself redeemable?

"27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified." – 1 Corinthians 9:27

C. God was about to use the prophet in a powerful starting with his own redemption!

¹ Bob Marcaurelle, <u>Outline Studies in Jonah and Amos</u>, vol. 16, Expository Preaching through the Old Testament (WORDsearch, 2015), 46.

2.) God commands Jonah to arise and go and the prophet listens! 2-3

- A. The Lord reinstates the prophet and gives him his mission! V2
 - a. Jonah was called to get up from where he was.
 - 1. Possible locations
 - a. Near Joppa
 - b. Back in Jerusalem
 - c. Or on the Palestine border
 - b. Jonah was to go and speak the exact words God had for him to the people of Nineveh!
 - 1. The Lord was going to give him the words to speak!

"19 When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour." – Matthew 10:19

- B. Jonah arose and went! V3
 - a. The prophet did just what the word of the Lord told him to do!
 - 1. Jonah obeyed this time without hesitation!
 - 2. Jonah would have 3-day journey to think and comprehend what the Lord was doing.
 - 3. If you want the Lord to use you, then follow his commands!
 - b. Jonah was the perfect vessel for the Lord to use because he had come to the point of surrender!

3.) God used Jonah and the people were cut to the heart. V4-5

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." –Hebrews 4:12

A. Jonah's message from the Lord was one of destruction and calamity! V 4

- a. God's message isn't always something that makes people feel comfortable!
- B. Upon hearing the message from the Lord the pagans of Nineveh believed the Lord's message and repented. V5
 - a. The sackcloth was uncomfortable and used for grieving.
 - i. They were grieving their sins and the destruction that they deserved apart from God!
 - ii. Every person no matter of status took part!

4.) The Nation repents and calls out to God? 6-9

- A. God's word even touched the heart of the King! V6
 - a. He had his own personal experience with repentance and grieving his own sin!

"Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God." –Romans 13:1

- B. The king called on the whole land to repent and give honor to the Lord. V7-8
 - a. The King now himself was taking on the role and job of the prophet proclaiming Jonah's message!
 - 1. God uses unlikely people for his will!
 - 2. He called on the people to call out mightily to God!
 - b. Jonah would go on to declare that salvation comes from the Lord.
 - 1. This time it would come from a more personal experience!
- C. The king had hope that God would show them grace! V 9