

- 2.) Do we see others as made in the image of God and worth being saved even if they have hurt us?
- 3.) Is God calling you to do something that you are resisting?

“Called”

‘Running From The Lord’

Jonah 1

Pastor Dan

“Before God sends His judgments, He sends His preachers to call the people to repentance, so they might escape. One of these was Jonah, the Billy Graham of his day.”-
David Garland

1.) Background

- A. Jonah was from Gath Hopher 2 miles north of Nazareth where Jesus was from. His
- B. Jonah most likely would have grown up seeing the Assyrians behead and torture many of his fellow Israelites as a child or at least heard about it. They were known for being cruel and vicious to their victims even skinning them alive.
- C. He now has grown up in a time of great nationalism and prosperity under King Jeroboam as a result foreigners were looked at as complete outcasts.
- D. Jonah was a contemporary of Amos, Hosea, Joel, and Isaiah, and could have even been a disciple of Elisha!
- E. The Great City of Nineveh was the capital of Assyria and was a metropolis. It was the center of the Assyrian world and evil.
- F. As Israel prospered the Assyrians were now declining and had turned to cruelty on one another instead of opposing countries.

2.) Jonah runs away from God's presence and calling! 1-3

- A. The Word of Yahweh
 - a. This was the highest name of God!
 - b. God was speaking to the prophet!
 - c. When God speaks his people are to listen!
- B. Jonah's name significance.
 - a. Jonah means Dove!
 - b. And his paternal name Amittai meant truth or faithfulness!
- C. The Lord gave Jonah a direct command.
 - a. He was to go out and speak against the evil that was going on in the land.
 - 1. God doesn't sugarcoat sin ever in calling people to repentance.
 - b. The Lord sees everything.
- D. Jonah's first response was to flee in the opposite direction.
 - a. Joppa was the main port whose name meant beautiful!
 - b. Tarshish was 2500 miles away in the Southern of Spain. It was the furthest known part to the Israelites at that time.
 - c. His purpose in fleeing was to leave the presence of the Lord!

3.) God knew exactly where Jonah was.

- A. God caused a strong storm to attack the ship V4
- B. The pagan crew worked together to save each other's lives while Jonah slept V5.
- C. Jonah was called out by a nonbeliever V6

4.) Jonah is thrown into the sea.

- A. The Phoenician sailors knew that this storm had to be an act of punishment. V7-8
- B. Jonah's response answer to who He is tells us a lot about his heart! V9
 - a. He states his nationality before his love of God.
 - b. He serves God more out of fear than love yet he still acknowledges him as Lord overall.
- C. The pagans had more of a fear of God than the prophet of God did. V10
- D. The other men cared for Jonah's life and did not want to have his blood on their hands and they called out to the Lord. V11-14
- E. Upon Jonah entering the sea the men feared the Lord and gave their lives to Him!

5.) God provided a great fish to save Jonah! V17

- A. Even though what Jonah deserved was death, God was not done with Jonah.
- B. Jonah was the only prophet that Jesus compared himself to, because of the fact that He himself was in the tomb for 3 days!

Closing Questions!

- 1.) How would have things been different if Jonah had simply followed God's calling?