



LESSONS FROM JONAH PART III

RECAP

The nation of Israel was divided at this time. Israel was the northern kingdom and Judah was the southern kingdom with its capital, Jerusalem. Jonah was a prophet to the northern kingdom of Israel. He prophesied during the time of Jeroboam the second (2 Kings 14:23-29). Jonah was the first and only prophet sent to the gentiles. This was God's ultimate plan, for Israel and the church to be proclaimers of truth to the ends of the world - Genesis 12:1-3, Acts 13:47, 2 Corinthians 5:20, Matthew 28:18-20

Chapter one: Jonah runs from the call of God. His disobediences put the lives of the mariners in peril. We do not sin in a box. Our sin affects others.

Chapter two: Jonah prays to the Lord his God from the fish's belly. When you find yourself in a pit with no escape, pray the prayer of faith and God will hear and deliver.

CHAPTER 3: JONAH PREACHES AT NINEVEH

1. vs.1-2: Jonah has to be obedient to the original calling

- Do you feel lost and wandering? What is God telling you to do that you are avoiding?
- Obey the light you've been given - *But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble. Proverbs 4:18-19*
- The rich young ruler went away sad because he did not obey. Tradition says that he was Barnabas. The same test came back again and he gave all – Mark 10:17-22, Acts 4:32-37
- God is expecting more out of you now - Acts 17:30-31

2. vs. 3-4: How can they hear without a preacher?

- God is faithful to send preachers - Romans 10:14-17, 2 Chronicles 36:15-16
- *"Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper." II Chronicles 20:20*

3. vs.5-9: The people of Nineveh proclaim a fast

- Fasting is a practice for believers today – Luke 5:35, Acts 13:2-3
- *Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Acts 9:8-9*
- There are 3 types of fasting: (1) The absolute, or total fast; no food or water. (2) The normal fast; no food. (3) The partial fast; abstinence from certain kinds of foods.

4. vs.10: God saw their works and relented

- Faith can be seen in works – Matthew 3:1-12
- Confession and repentance are still required for God's blessing – 1 John 1:9-10, James 5:16
- *He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy. Proverbs 28:13*
- God changed His mind but not His character – Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8

