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Much Love!

Pastor Ed

Title: A Whale of a Story

Text: Jonah (Dove)

Target: God's providence will always get you to His purpose.

I.A Call to Go: *“Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, “Arise, go...” (1:1-2)*

A. To a Place: *“to Nineveh, that great city,” (1:2) *Mosul, Iraq*

B. To a People: *“and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” (1:2)*

II.A Place to Run: *“But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish” (1:3)*

A. Far from God's Presence: *“from the presence of the LORD” (2x) (1:3)*

B. Far from a Nivevite People: *“He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish,” (1:3) *Southern Spain 2500 miles away*

III.A Storm that Blows: *“But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea,” (1:4)*

A. Causing Fear: *Then the mariners were afraid (1:5)*

B. Creating Faith: *each cried out to his god (1:5)*

IV.A Crew that Knows:

A. Roll of the Dice: *Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us. (1:7)*

B. Revelation of Defiance: *For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them. (1:10)*

V. A Fish to Catch: *And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah (1:17)*

A. Prayer of Distress: *I called out to the LORD, out of my distress (2:2)*

B. Purpose to Deliver: *And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land. (2:10)*

VI. A City that Repents: *And the people of Nineveh believed God. (3:5)*

A. A Second Chance: *Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time (3:1)*

B. A Sermon that's Concise: *Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” (3:4)*

C. A Scene of Compassion: *God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it. (3:10)*

VII. A Preacher that Quits:

A. His Complaint: *But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry (4:1)*

B. God's Comfort: *God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort (4:6)*

C. His Criticism: *Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die (4:9)*

VIII. A God who Cares: *And should not I pity Nineveh, ...more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle (4:11)*

Take Away: God is a God of second chances that turns what we think are mistakes into defining moments.