

Series: Seas of Grace
C.R. 4-24-22
“How Do You Plead”

Text: Jonah 1:11-16

Intro: In our last message in Jonah, which was a couple of weeks ago now, we were in the people’s court. The men on the ship are trying to get to the bottom of what caused the storm that is going on. They noticed that it was no ordinary storm, and that it seemed to them that someone was at fault. As Jonah is tried, he does a poor job of stating his case. We took note of his pitiful witness, and his puny confession. We also noted at the end of the message the probing question asked of him. Why have you done this? If you serve a God who created all of this, and who is charge, what are you doing?

Today the men take it a step farther. What do we do with this guilty man? The plea has been entered. Guilty. Now the sentence phase begins. Let’s take a closer look.

1) The Seriousness of Sin.

- a. It should be noted that even these sailors knew that something had to be done with the mistakes of Jonah.
- b. Sin is serious. It blocks our view of God, and it hinders our fellowship with God.
- c. It demands and requires punishment. The guilty must be punished. (Prisons, trials, etc....)
- d. The reason so many are in stormy seas is because of their unwillingness to listen to God and do it God’s way.
- e. Far too often we act as if our rebellion and sin will go unnoticed. I assure it will not.
- f. David had to be told you are the man, and things would not get better for him until there had been repentance.

2) The Surrender to God. (v.12)

- a. All to Jesus I surrender, all to him I freely give.
- b. Jonah knew that this sea will not quit until I do.
- c. There had to be a sacrifice for this to stop.
- d. Sin has always demanded a sacrifice. Since the first sin in the garden sin demanded a sacrifice.
- e. That's what is so incredible about our faith. We know that the sacrifice for our sin was paid for by the Lord Jesus.
- f. **Note v.13.** Their works was not good enough.
- g. **Quote:** "We would rather give God the work of our hand than the sacrifice of a broken heart."
- h. Notice that the sea grew worse. Sin when it is conceived brings forth death.
- i. Jonah had to surrender.

3) The Sacrifice Made (v.15)

- a. This boat would never calm down until the sacrifice had been made.
- b. What a beautiful picture of what Christ has done for each of us.
- c. Christ was not guilty, but Jonah was. The picture is very clear.
- d. The question is asked "Had Jonah just resigned himself to die."
- e. Jonah knew that for the life of these me to be spared, and for the storm to die down then he must be thrown overboard.
- f. We can't miss the parallel here. For us to live, Jesus had to die. There is no other way.
- g. You and I should be at the bottom of the sea, swallowed up but Jesus went for us. He paid our debt.

- h. We do not know for sure if these sailors turned to the God of Jonah and Him alone, but we do know they recognized His power.
- i. Unlike Jonah we need to be reminded this morning that Christ was no runaway.
- j. Jesus willingly offered himself on Calvary's cross and the entered death for the redemption of mankind.