



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW THAT JONAH MISSED
Jonah Chapter 4
Pastor Mike Reidland - September 3, 2017

The Nation of Israel was to be uniquely a witness nation.

1 Chronicles 16:23 *Sing to the earth; show forth from day to day His salvation. Declare His glory among the heathen; His wonders among all peoples..*

God, also, put His hand on some special individuals who were to be preachers, men we now know as the Old Testament prophets.

Some were in pastoral roles and some were called to be missionaries; not to stay in the culture, but to go outside the culture to reach the pagans, those outside, just like it is today.

1) Now, we are the duly constituted community of God. We, **THE CHURCH**, are now the witness nation.

Matthew 28:19-20 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*

2) There are always going to be some missionaries who are better than others, who respond to the calling of God **FAITHFULLY** and some not so faithfully. Jonah was God's **RELUCTANT** missionary!

*THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE BOOK OF JONAH IS GOD. AND
TWO REASONS PEOPLE TRY TO RUN FROM GOD:*

FEAR & PRIDE

3) Pastor Bob talked to us about God's amazing grace. **GRACE** is God giving us something we don't **DESERVE**, like answering our prayers when we are in distress in spite of our guilt, or delivering us from impossible circumstances.

4) Pastor Charlie reminded us that God is the God of **SECOND CHANCES**. **Lamentations 3.23** says His mercies are new every morning, GREAT is His faithfulness!

Jonah 4.1 *It greatly displeased Jonah and he became very angry!*

Jonah 4.5 *Then Jonah went out from the city and sat east of it. There he made a shelter for himself and sat under it in the shade until he could see what would happen in the city.*

Jonah 4.6 *So the LORD God appointed a plant and it grew up over Jonah to be a shade over his head to deliver him from his discomfort. And Jonah was extremely happy about the plant.*

Jonah 4.9-11 *...Then God said to Jonah, "Do you have good reason to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "I have good reason to be angry, even to death."¹⁰ Then the LORD said, "You had compassion on the plant for which you did not work and which you did not cause to grow, which came up overnight and perished overnight."¹¹ Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?"*

God is:

- in the business of doing incredible work through people who are extremely flawed and not worthy to be used by God
- the Supreme Judge
- a gracious, benevolent Savior

The heart of the gospel... *all have sinned and fall short of God's standards and deserve His wrath and judgement, but He offers us forgiveness through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!*

GOD DOES NOT WANT ANYONE TO GO TO HELL, BUT WE ALREADY DESERVE HELL. SO, GOD SENT HIS SON JESUS CHRIST TO PAY THE PENALTY THAT OUR SINS DESERVE, FOR ANYONE WHO WILL REPENT AND PUT THEIR FAITH AND TRUST IN HIM.