

# The Disoriented Prophet & The Place For Pity

## Jonah 4:8-11

February 5-6, 2022

- Last Week: Jonah 4:4-8 Deadly Anger & God's Appointed Work

### The Call To Love & Pity

1. This Call To Both Love & Pity Is Not Only The Idea Or Attitude Of Love But An Attitude That Becomes An Action (**Joel 2:17, Neh. 13:22**)
  - **רָחַם** (khoos) - To pity, look upon with compassion (**Jonah 4:10-11**)
2. God Calls Jonah & Us To Love & Pity (First Call **Jonah 1:2**; Second Call **Jonah 3:2**; A Third & Final Call **Jonah 4**)

### Our Struggle With Love & Pity

- We All Have Love & Pity But It Is Often Misplaced & Misguided
  1. Self-Pity (**Jonah 4:8**)
  2. Objects (**Jonah 4:7,10**)
  3. Animals (**Proverbs 12:10; Matthew 6:26**)
  4. Enemies (Ninevites) (**Luke 6:27-36**)

### Our Resistance To The One Who Shows Love & Pity

1. Jonah's Fundamental Problem Is NOT That He Does Not Want Love & Pity, But That He Does NOT Want Others To Know The Love & Pity That He Has Known
2. Jonah Has Literally Chosen The Hill That He Wants To Die On (**Jonah 4:8-9**)
3. Jonah Embodies The 'I-Don't-Need-Your-Pity-Attitude' As He Rejects God's Pity For Others (**Jonah 4:8-9**)
4. Jesus Received No Love & Pity From The World But Gave Love & Pity To The World (**Psalm 22:7-8, Psalm 72:13**)

### Our God's Love & Pity

1. The Book Of Jonah Is Not About Jonah (**Jonah 4:11**)
2. The Book Of Jonah Is About God's Love & Pity (**Jonah 4:11**)
  - For The Pagan & The Prophet
  - For The Irreligious & The Religious

### 3. A Cliffhanger Conclusion:

- The Lowpoint Of The Book (**Jonah 4:9**)
- The Highpoint Of The Book (**Jonah 4:10-11**)

### 4. God Has Compassion On The Confused ... & Also The Cows (**Jonah 4:11...?**)

*We Must Recognize & Receive God's Love & Pity For Us  
Before We Rightly Rejoice In God's Love & Pity For Others*

### **Community Group Discussion Questions:**

1. How has God spoken to you through Jonah?
2. What are ways that we misplace love and pity?
3. Compare how freely Jesus gave compassion, love, and pity with how exclusively Jonah wanted God to restrict his pity. What are ways that you and I may be acting more like Jonah than Jesus?
4. Why does the author of Jonah not fully conclude the story? How would you end this dangling story? How would you desire to see this cliffhanger conclude?
5. In what ways did the Ninevites need pity? In what ways does Jonah need pity? How are God's love and pity needed by both the pagan and the prophet? Both the irreligious and the religious?