



In this story, we see that Jonah basically has two problems. On the surface, his problem is that he doesn't have a heart for the people of Nineveh. But his real problem goes even deeper than that. Jonah doesn't want a God who *does* have a heart for them. Jonah's real problem is with God!

~ In chapter 4, God prepares three more things as object lessons to teach Jonah:

1. God prepared a _____. (v. 6)
2. God prepared a _____. (v. 7)
3. God prepared a scorching east _____. (v. 8)

~ The big question: What's more important to you — _____
or _____?

~ "God's greatest problem is not the _____ out there, his greatest problem is the _____ in here." —anonymous

~ Are we going to have God's _____ for the Ninevehs of our world? Or are we just going to _____ them as much as Jonah hated the city of Nineveh?

The generosity of God displeased Jonah exceedingly and he slashed with angry prayer at the graciousness of the Almighty. "I told You so," he screamed. "I knew what You would do, You dirty Forgiver. You bless Your enemies and show kindness to those who spitefully use You. I would rather die than live in a world with a God like You. And don't try to forgive me either."

And Jonah stalked
To his shaded seat
And waited for God
To come around
To his way of thinking.

And God is still waiting
For a host of Jonah's
In their comfortable houses
To come around
To his way of loving.

(From the book *You! Jonah!*
by Thomas John Carlisle)



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