

A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title

Prayer for Salvation

Jonah 2-3:3

Slide 2:

Jonah 2:1–6 (ESV)

Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, saying,

“I called out to the LORD, out of my distress,

and he answered me;

out of the belly of Sheol I cried,

and you heard my voice.

For you cast me into the deep,

into the heart of the seas,

and the flood surrounded me;

all your waves and your billows

passed over me.

Then I said, ‘I am driven away

from your sight;

yet I shall again look

upon your holy temple.’

The waters closed in over me to take my life;

the deep surrounded me;

weeds were wrapped about my head

at the roots of the mountains.

I went down to the land

whose bars closed upon me forever;

yet you brought up my life from the pit,

O LORD my God.

Slide 3:

Jonah 2:7–3:3 (ESV)

When my life was fainting away,

I remembered the LORD,

and my prayer came to you,

forsake their hope of steadfast love.

But I with the voice of thanksgiving

will sacrifice to you;

what I have vowed I will pay.

Salvation belongs to the LORD!"

And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying,

"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD.

Slide 4:

WAS saved

ARE BEING saved

WILL BE saved

Slide 5:

The story of Jonah is not about Missionary work, it's about saving the missionary.

Slide 6:

I. Jonah's Discovery/Acceptance of Two Towering Truths

II. Jonah's Way (and ours) to Experience these Truths

III. The Mystery that Changed Jonah's Life (and can change ours)

Slide 7:

Two Truths:

1) Praying into the Sovereignty of God

"God's absolute, active and continual reign over the heavens and earth.

His undisputed right to govern over all that is."

"For **you cast** me into the deep,

into the heart of the seas,

and the flood surrounded me;

all **your** waves and **your** billows

passed over me."

Two Truths:

1) Praying into the Sovereignty of God

2) Praying into God's Grace

"An undeserved gift from an unobligated giver"

"Salvation belongs to the Lord!"

Slide 9:

Religious, Irreligious, Christian

Irreligious:

"Salvation? comes from the Lord!"

Religious:

Salvation comes from the Lord?"

Slide 10:

Experiencing these Truths

1) Sovereignty = Acceptance

Any path away from placing all things at God's feet gives you an impotent god.

Slide 11:

2) Grace = Learn, Live, Love

Slide 12:

1 Corinthians 2:1–2 (ESV)

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.

For I decided to know **nothing** among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Slide 13:

2 Peter 3:18 (ESV)

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

Slide 15:

The Mystery

"...yet I shall again look upon your holy temple."

"...my prayer came to you, into your holy temple."

Slide 16:

It IS enough, and it is done

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read Jonah 2 up to 3:3.

What do you see? What would you like to study more?

Talk about or explore more fully?

2. Talk about these two truths and what they mean to you

a) God's Sovereignty (Jonah 2:3)

How do you try to explain how God plans all of life, but yet persons are still responsible for their sin?

b) God's Grace (Jonah 2:9)

Explain the difference between Religious, Irreligious and Christian.

Can you explain how and why we (who believe in grace) still bend to religion?

3. What are some ways we can go deeper in experiencing God's Sovereignty, and God's Grace?

4. Have you ever felt "stuck" spiritually? What did God do to get Jonah "unstuck?" Why is suffering so powerful in helping us to understand the two truths mentioned above?

"praying to" the temple. Obviously he couldn't actually look to or pray in the temple. So, what did that mean?

6. What does it mean for you and I to "look to" or "pray to" our Temple?
How does that give hope and provide break through?

7. Prayer and Praise