

A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title

Jonah: Grace Under The Water

Slide 2:

Jonah 1:1-3 (ESV)

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

Slide 3:

Jonah 1:17 (ESV)

And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 2:7-10 (ESV)

When my life was fainting away,

I remembered the LORD,

and my prayer came to you,

into your holy temple.

Those who pay regard to vain idols
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.

Slide 4:

Jonah 3:1-5 (ESV)

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. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

Slide 5:

Jonah 4:1-2 (ESV)

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. And he prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I

made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster.

Slide 6:

I. The Factual Story

Slide 7:

Jonah Map (Attached)

Slide 8:

II. Unique Characteristics of This Prophecy Book

- a) Jonah is a "non-standard" prophet. The prophecy is embedded in the narrative.
- b) Jonah is pronouncing judgment upon a foreign nation inside that foreign land

Slide 9:

"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me."

"That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster."

Slide 10:

III. The Point Of The Prophecy
Spiritual Journey

Slide 11:

a) Humankind's journey to salvation (Jonah)

Slide 12:

Embedded Prophecy of Human Spiritual Journey

- 1) Walking with God (Pre-Chapter 1)
- 2) Walking away from God (Chapter 1-Jonah flees to Tarshish)
- 3) Walking to God (Chapter 2-Judgment/Repentance/Grace)
- 4) Walking with God (Chapter 3-Obedience)
- 5) Walking away from God (Chapter 4-Pouting/Anger)

Slide 13:

b) Supreme Creator's journey to save humans (Yahweh)
How does God save humans without violating our will?

Slide 14:

IV. Gods journey to us will be one of love, but His love always includes judgment and grace.

Slide 15:

In the Bible (ancient mindset) judgment was seen as compatible/harmonious with grace!

Slide 16:

How do we grow?

Colossians 1:5-6 (ESV)

...the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth

Slide 17:

Grace (has judgment embedded in it) = Completely undeserved gift from a completely unobligated giver

Slide 18:

Jonah 2:4 (ESV)

Then I said, 'I am driven away
from your sight;
yet I shall again look
upon your holy temple.'

Slide 19:

Where we get "off" the path

- 1) We want to wiggle out of being undeserving
- 2) We sit in undeservedness without "looking to the temple."

Slide 20:

Jesus as the Ultimate Jonah

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

1) Have you read the story of Jonah? What were some of your takeaways from the Jonah story as you remember it from your past?

2) How is this book so different from other prophetic books?

3) In Jonah we see a cycle of salvation (or sanctification). Talk about the cycle below:

- * Walking away from God (heart issues/disobedience)
- * Walking back to God (awakened/repentance)
- * Walking with God (gratitude/obedience/renewal)
- * Walking away from God (heart issues/disobedience)

So, where are you at in this cycle right now?

Why is it so difficult for us to remain walking with God?

4) Explain how judgment is embedded in grace. (Is grace possible if we feel like we deserve it in any way, or if God is obligated in any way? Judgment allows us to know that we are undeserving, and that God is unobligated!)

5) How does the cross tell the story of judgment and grace?
How is Jesus the Ultimate Jonah?

6) Prayer and praise