

SIGNIFICANT: Sanctimonious
Jonah 4

SLIDE: Sanctimonious – a twist on the words *sanctity* and *sacred*, which mean holy or religious. Though sanctimonious people might try to act like saints, their actions are far from pure or holy, which just makes them sound like hypocrites.

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SUPPORT SCRIPTURE:

Job 1:20-22 (NIV): ²⁰At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹and said: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.”

²²In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

SUPPORT SCRIPTURE:

Psalms 34:1 (NLT): I will praise the LORD at all times.

MAIN POINT:

Praise the Lord at all times.

MAIN SCRIPTURE:

Jonah 4:1-4 (NIV): But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD, “Isn’t this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

SLIDE:

Why are you angry?

SUPPORT SCRIPTURE:

James 4:3 (NIV): ³When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

MAIN POINT:

Praise the Lord at all times.

MAIN SCRIPTURE:

Jonah 4:5-8 (NIV): ⁵Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live."

SUPPORT SCRIPTURE:

1 Peter 1:7 (NIV): ⁷These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

MAIN POINT:

Praise the Lord at all times.

MAIN SCRIPTURE:

Jonah 4:9-11 (NIV): ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" "It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead."
¹⁰But the LORD said, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?"

MAIN POINT:

Praise the Lord at all times.