

I. God Chooses A Person (1)

“Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying...” **Jonah’s father’s name means “loyal, true”. How ironic!**

Hosea 1:1 - “The word of the Lord that came to Hosea...”

Jeremiah 1:1 - “The words of Jeremiah, the son of Hilkiyah...to whom the word of the Lord came...”

Micah 1:1 - “The word of the Lord that came to Micah...”

1 Kings 18:46 - “And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah...”

Ezekiel 3:22 - “And the hand of the Lord was upon me there. And He said to me...”

II. God Reveals A Purpose (2)

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

1. Direction - “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city...”

2. Expectation - “...and call out against it...”

3. Explanation - “...for their evil has come up before Me.”

III. God Encounters A Prodigal (3)

A. Jonah’s heart was evasive - “But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.”

B. Jonah’s actions were deliberate - “He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish.”

C. Jonah’s commitments were costly - “So he paid the fare and went on board...”

Proverbs 14:12 - “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.”

D. Jonah’s plans were illogical - “...to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.”

Psalm 139:7 - “Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?”

E. Jonah’s God is merciful

Isaiah 65:2-3 - “I spread out My hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke Me to My face continually...”