

# Jonah Part 2 HANDOUT

2.12.23

Who you are on the inside will reflect in how you act on the outside. Let's take a look at the contrast in character between Jonah and the sailors.

**Jonah 1:7** Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.

God uses casting lots as a divine tool to show people His will.

**Proverbs 16:33** The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.

**Jonah could have brought his own actions to light.**

**KEY:** God provides opportunities for us to repent - and Jonah should have used that opportunity to come clean before God and men, but he didn't.

**Jonah 1:8-9** So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?" 9He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

**In the light of his wilful disobedience, Jonah's words have an extremely hollow ring to them.**

**KEY:** Jonah had all the right answers, but his actions did not reflect a true belief in what he claimed.

**Jonah 1:10** This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the Lord, because he had already told them so.)

In response, the men cried out, "What is this you have done!" (1:10). The Hebrew phrase is an exact copy of the question God asked of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:13).

**Jonah 1:11** The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"

God was pressing in on their situation more. He is Sovereign.

**Jonah 1:12** “Pick me up and throw me into the sea,” he replied, “and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you.”

It’s interesting to note that Jonah asked to be thrown off the ship, instead of just jumping off himself.

**Jonah 1:13** Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before.

**KEY:** Jonah was supposed to be the one that had compassion for others and a passion to follow the Lord. **The ways we act show what we truly believe on the inside and when they do not line up, it reveals a misunderstanding on our part.**

**Jonah 1:14** Then they cried out to the Lord, “Please, Lord, do not let us die for taking this man’s life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, Lord, have done as you pleased.”

These sailors who are not following God are the ones who pray to God.

**Jonah 1:15-16** Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. 16 At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to him.

The sailors or non-believers are now the ones that fear the Lord.

**Proverbs 9:10** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

In the midst of his disobedience, God still uses him to draw people to Himself.

**KEY:** God will interrupt and disrupt the lack of obedience of His followers to accomplish His own will!

Obedience without God’s power, does not accomplish anything. Obedience with God’s power will accomplish much!

**POINT:** The ways in which we live our lives reflect what we truly believe on the inside.