

The Renegade's Reason
Jonah 4:1-5, Isaiah 19:19-25, Ezekiel 18:23
Al Gascon | March 1, 2026

- Jonah witnessed things that almost no other prophet ever got to see with their own eyes; He beheld miracles and the repentance of hundreds of thousands of people.

A revival...is a special and manifest outpouring of the Spirit of God, when the work no longer labors in the hands of man but seems to be taken up by God Himself, and God comes down in a manner and with an influence before which the wicked stand in awe, and all the people feel His special presence... Everybody hears, because they come near to hear; everybody feels, because they cannot help it. Every day sinners are awakened, and every day sinners are converted. While one is weeping for his sins, another is rejoicing in hope. And ministers and experienced Christians give themselves up entirely to the work which God has thrown upon their hands, to warn those who are yet careless, to guide the inquiring, and to nourish those who are born again. – Calvin Colton

- Zealously desiring the destruction of the wicked brings you outside of God's will.

We should often ask ourselves, is it well to say thus, to do thus? Can I justify it? Do I do well to be so soon angry, so often angry, so long angry, and to give others ill language in my anger? Do I do well to be angry at the mercy of God to repenting sinners? That was Jonah's crime. Do we do well to be angry at that which is for the glory of God, and the advancement of his kingdom? Let the conversion of sinners, which is the joy of heaven, be our joy, and never our grief. –Matthew Henry

- You have to align with BOTH God's hatred of evil and his mercy and desire for the wicked to be saved. You cannot just subscribe to one.
- Each person's "Nineveh" is different, but each individual response should always be "I'll go. Send me and bring revival."

Discussion Questions

- a. What would your response be if God sent you into North Korea and the whole nation repented, dictator included? Would you stay in that nation for a time after they received the message?
- b. Which of these two is a more difficult struggle for you: aligning with God's hatred of sin and wickedness or aligning with God's merciful desire for salvation for the wicked?
- c. Why is it important to accept both God's righteousness/holiness as well as his mercy/grace to all.
- d. What do you think would have happened if Jonah stayed and ministered to Nineveh?