

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET JONAH

CHAPTER 1:4-10

TAPE NUMBER SMX-463 OCTOBER 27, 2002

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“RUNNING FROM THE WILL OF GOD”

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Prodigal, Wayward, Rebellion, Sovereignty, God's Will

INTRODUCTION

to the text

Jonah 1:4-10

Jonah 1:4-10

But the LORD sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up. ⁵ Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep. ⁶ So the captain came to him, and said to him, "What do you mean, (by this) O' sleeper? Arise, call on your God; perhaps your God will consider us, so that we may not perish." ⁷ And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this trouble has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ Then they said to him, "Please tell us! For whose cause is this trouble upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹ And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." ¹⁰ Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

RUNNING FROM THE WILL OF GOD

1.) Means that “God will use anything to get us” vv. 4-5a

4 But the LORD sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up. 5 Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load...

HE’LL USE ANYTHING TO GET US

1a.) Using events and situations to speak to us

Verse 4

*But the LORD sent out a **great wind** on the sea, and there was a **mighty tempest** in the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up*

Now we enter into the Miraculous Intervention of God

But the LORD sent out...

HE SENDS A GREAT WIND THAT CREATES A TURBULENT SEA

When sailing, wind is a good thing until...
That wind creates a mighty tempest!

The Lord has made this voyage Impossible without Him

Life without God is a Bore

A Life without God is a Terrible Waste

Romans 1:18-22

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, = (empty headed)

The events of life, both now and throughout history
Are moments that have very specific purposes.

He deals with Our lives - In Every Moment

1. To show us the power of His Word
2. To show us His faithfulness
3. To show us our deep dependence upon Him
4. To show us that the world is such a sad place without Him

Using events and situations to speak to us

HE'LL USE ANYTHING TO GET US

1b.) Testing the things that we trust in

Verse 5

*Then the mariners were afraid; and every man
cried out to his god,*

We Don't Know Who These Mariners Are, But
The Lord is Working in Their Lives Too

*and every (each) man cried out to his
(each of their) god,(s)*

The Lord He is God

gods = **The Things That We Look to Help Us**

Difficulties
Expose the False God's

Isaiah 48:11c
...I will not give My glory to another.

HE'LL USE ANYTHING TO GET US

1c.) Exposing our frailty to us

Verse 5

When Your gods Fail...

You have to take matters into your own hands

*and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea,
to lighten the load...*

The gods of

Energy, Resourcefulness, Ambition, Scheming,
and Clout - Look Really Good... for a while!

An Idol on the dashboard of the ship
Never made much sense to me.

- Some man at the idol factory made it.
 - It's plastic or porcelain at best
- If you buy one – you for one on sale
 - It's looking the wrong way

IDOL'S BECOME CARGO IN TIME

You'll have to rescue both yourself and your little
IDOL GOD

RUNNING FROM THE WILL OF GOD

2.) Means that "God will not leave us alone" vv. 5b-7

...But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep. ⁶ So the captain came to him, and said to him, "What do you mean, (by this) O' sleeper? Arise, call on your God; perhaps your God will consider us, so that we may not perish."

"O' sleeper" and "Asleep"

(To be stupefied by sleep or death. To be rendered dead, or left for dead)

HE'LL NEVER LEAVE US ALONE

2a.) *He comes to us in our darkest hours*

Verse 5b

*...But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship,
had lain down, and was fast asleep.*

What was Jonah Hearing?

The sounds of the sea against the ship

What was Jonah Feeling?

The range of emotions and thoughts

What was Jonah Desiring?

The depression had swallowed him up to the point of death

In His Depression

He was sleeping a sleep of torment

Combating Depression Completely

STEP #1

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and **lean not** on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways **acknowledge** Him, and He shall direct your paths.

STEP #2

Psalm 37:4-8

Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. ⁵

Commit your way to the LORD, **trust** also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. ⁶ He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. ⁷

Rest in the LORD, and **wait patiently** for Him; **do not fret** because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. ⁸ **Cease** from anger, and **forsake** wrath; **do not fret**-- it only causes harm.

STEP #3

1 Thessalonians 5:18

in everything **give thanks**; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

HE'LL NEVER LEAVE US ALONE

2b.) He'll send us a direct message

Verse 6

*So the captain came to him, and said to him,
"What do you mean, (by this) O' sleeper? Arise,
call on your God;*

Here, A Gentile Sailor, A Heathen
Rebukes a Man of God

"What do you mean, (by this) O' sleeper?"

Can You Really be Christian and be Apathetic
About the things of God?

Revelation 3:1-3

"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: **"I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.** ² **"Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God.** ³

"Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

Here, A Gentile Sailor, A Heathen
Approaches with Hope, The God of Israel

... call on your God!

In Times of Crisis

The world will call upon us - to call upon our God.

September 11th. 2002

What will be our reaction When...

Are we sleeping when we should be alive?

HE'LL NEVER LEAVE US ALONE

2c.) He'll give us opportunity

Verse 6

*perhaps your God will consider us,
so that we may not perish."*

The World without Jesus is in a Huge Trouble Today

John 3:16-18

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

The World is in a Huge Trouble Today

It's Condemned Already – *on its way down*

THEY'RE UNAWARE OF THEIR DESPERATE CONDITION

Like a Train Traveling in the Night...

1 Peter 4:18

if it is with difficulty that the righteous are saved,
then what will become of the godless man and the sinner?

“So that we may not perish.”

THIS IS THE GOAL IN EVANGELISM.

That everyone would
call upon the Lord - for salvation

THE GOAL

#1

That every man and woman, boy and girl would see their need
of a savior. It is then and only then that a man can be saved

Romans 3:19

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that
every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 10:12-13

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to
all who call upon Him. ¹³ For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

#2

These men had an internal witness. The fear that death was
imminent
And that judgment was near.

He'll give Opportunity

2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸ Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

...He gives us opportunity

Opportunity to Receive This Forgiveness

Or

Opportunity to Share the Forgiveness

But Where in Humanity are You?

It's one or the other. You have either been forgiven and you're Sharing that Forgiveness. Or you're not forgiven, and you have nothing to say to anyone about this...

RUNNING FROM THE WILL OF GOD

3.) Means "God will bring us back to the truth v. 8-10

Then they said to him, "Please tell us! For whose cause is this trouble upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹ And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven,

who made the sea and the dry land." ¹⁰ Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

HE'LL BRING US BACK TO THE TRUTH

3a.) The Truth is – We have to look at ourselves honestly

Verse 8

*"Please tell us!
For **whose cause** is this trouble upon us?*

*"Please tell us!
What is your **occupation**?*

*"Please tell us!
Where do you **come from**?*

*"Please tell us!
What is your **country**?*

*"Please tell us!
What **people** are you?"*

NOTICE ALL THE QUESTIONS

The World has Questions
“if your God is a god of love, then why...”

**The Truth is –
We have to look at ourselves honestly**

With every question,
Jonah had to think

Who am I, Where am I, Why am I, What am I

Romans 12:3

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

(Be Humble)

Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

(Be Blessed)

We have to look at ourselves honestly

Humbly Happy, a Sinner Saved, a Heathen Happy, a Bum Blessed

HE'LL BRING US BACK TO THE TRUTH

3b.) The Truth is – We must admit to the truth

Verse 9

***And he said to them,
"I am a Hebrew;***

The level of pride and arrogance
"I Am an American"

Confession meant Association

HE'LL BRING US BACK TO THE TRUTH

3c.) The Truth is – It's God who's in Control

Verse 9-10

*and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven,
who made the sea and the dry land."*

**That's the God we need right now
crazy!**

Wait Jonah, You Belong to
The God of the Atmosphere, The Sea's, Dry Land –
O' Yeah

STOP

Identify Your God Please

"I Believe in God"

we all worship the same god anyway

Verse 10

Indictment of the Believer

Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

Every step you take / Every move you make / I'll be
watching

Apologetically & Evangelistically

end