

RUNNING FROM GOD

JONAH 1

5/5/24

I. GOD SPEAKS

Jonah 1:1-2 – “Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ² ‘Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.’”

II. JONAH RESPONDS

Jonah 1:3 – “But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.”

III. CONSEQUENCES EXPERIENCED

A. God

Jonah 1:4 – “The LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea...”

There are two reasons suffering comes:

1. We sin and experience the consequences of it.

Hebrews 12:6 – “For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

2. God allows, in His sovereignty, circumstances into our lives to make us more like Jesus.

James 1:2-4 – “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

B. Jonah

Jonah 1: 5b – “...But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep.”

Jonah 1:12 – “He said to them, ‘pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.’”

C. The Mariners

Jonah 1:10 – “Then the men were exceedingly afraid...”

Jonah 1:14 – “Therefore they called out to the LORD, ‘O LORD, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.’”

Jonah 1:16 – “Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.”

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you about the message this week? What challenged your thinking?
2. God speaks to us mainly by His Word. What has God been speaking to you about over this past week?
3. Can you think of a time in your life when you knew you should do something but refused to do it? What happened? Did you ever make it right?
4. We have all gone through dark times. Talk about a time when you experienced suffering and what you did to make it through. How did you respond? How did God show up?
5. Can you think of a time in your life when God took a difficult circumstance and used it to draw others to Himself?
6. What is one practical application from the sermon that you want to focus on this week?