



## Lesson 4

### “Revival”

#### **Jonah ran the first time because he felt as if Nineveh was too far gone**

Jonah 3:1 And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

#### **Nineveh:**

- Nineveh is known in the Bible as the capital city of Assyria, a longtime enemy of Israel.
- Nineveh was located in what is now modern Iraq
- Nineveh was known for its great wealth, power, and prestige
- The Assyrians were famous for their cruelty and idolatry
- Their city contained many temples for the Assyrian gods

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**God was about to change all this!**

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#### **God brings a revival to this city**

#### **Revival = God makes dead things live!**

Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened (made alive), who were dead in trespasses and sins;

- DEAD = lifeless!

Jonah 3:1 And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

**What do we learn about this revival in chapter 3?**

### **I. We have a responsibility!**

Luke 12:48b **For unto whomsoever much is given**, of him shall be much **required**: and to whom men have committed much, of him they **will ask the more**.

- If you are saved, “much” has been given to you!
- This means, “much” is required!

**Jonah recognized his responsibility.....**

Jonah 3:3 So Jonah **arose**, and **went** unto Nineveh, **according to the word of the LORD**

#### **A. It Requires Action 3:3**

God has a plan – The plan requires ACTION

Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

The target of Christ was the lost

- SEEK = This is an action word
- SAVE = to rescue!

Luke 19:11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. 12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. 13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, **Occupy till I come**.

Occupy = busy one’s self with

- Root word that means a business, a matter, work!

Jonah 3:3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, **according to the word of the LORD**. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.

#### **B. It Requires Obedience 3:3**

- This is not an option

- This is not a suggestion

### C. It Requires Urgency 3:4

Jonah 3:4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

40. Days! - This is the warning

#### Time is running out!

Jonah 3:2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and **preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.**

**God said, "You deliver unto them MY WORDS!"**

Nineveh was SO messed up

- But God did not send him there to fail
- The gospel doesn't fail

Jonah 3:2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and **preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.**

### II. We Hold the Power to change lives

Jonah was Surrounded by SIN

- Prostitutes
- Drunks
- People fighting

Jonah 3:4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and **Nineveh shall be overthrown.**

- He was preaching about God's judgment
- He was preaching truth!

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**This message impacted this city!**

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- He spoke to their hearts
- They saw their need

**God's Word holds power!**

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish **that which I please**, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

### **When God's Word goes out, He does the Work**

- There is a power that is sent out
- His Spirit that speaks to our spirit

Isaiah 55:11 ....but it shall accomplish that which I please, and **it shall prosper** in the thing whereto I sent it.

- When the WORD is spoken, It sets out on a predetermined course
- The Spirit of God does a work that is beyond our understanding

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful,..... piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit...

- It cuts through the lies
- It breaks down our past
- It brings conviction to those that don't believe

### **The Promise of the Word**

Isaiah 55:11 ....**it shall not return unto me void**, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

- Return Void = It will NEVER return empty
- You have NEVER wasted your time sharing it

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**God's Word cannot and will not fail!**

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### **Jonah preached the message God gave him....**

Jonah 3:5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

Believed God = they trusted God

#### **A. It Convicts (the power we hold convicts)**

Jonah 3:6 For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

- He was vile, wicked, evil, and godless

BUT READ....

- This was not about the king changing the nation
- But the Gospel changing the KING

Jeremiah 23:29 - Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer [that] breaketh the rock in pieces?

### **B. It Spreads**

Jonah 3:7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: 8 But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. 9 Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

- The Gospel has GREATER Power than any evil
  - It has a greater power than any drug

### **C. It Changes Lives**

Jonah 3:10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

“Turned” – repented

One of the most wicked cities in history was changed by one man that preached the truth