


JONAH



FROM RUNNING
TO REVIVAL

Lesson 5

“Angry with God”

Have you ever been mad at God?

- He does not answer your prayer even though you begged Him

In this chapter, Jonah leaves Nineveh while they are crying out to God

- Most people would be excited to hear a pagan nation turn their hearts towards God
- But Jonah was upset

Jonah’s reaction is NOT what you would think....

Jonah 4:1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

Jonah 4:2 And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil. 3 Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live. 4 Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry?

God asks Jonah, “Do you think you have the right to be angry?”

Jonah 4:3 Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live

- Isn’t it amazing how we can allow our circumstances to affect our view of God

Why do we get angry with God?

I. We think that God does not get it

Jonah 4:2 And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

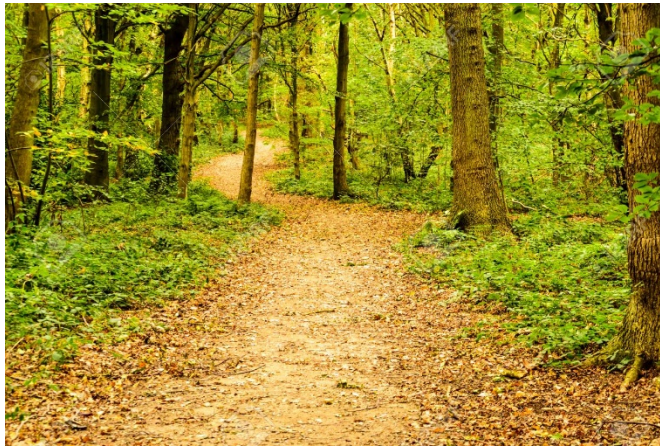
- He is explaining God to God
- He is pleading his case to God

Do you know why we question God?

- Because it does not make sense to us!

It is not our job to figure it out, it is our job to TRUST Him!

Our View



God's View



A story about a worm:

Jonah 4:5 So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

- He is waiting on GOD to do what he thought God should do

Jonah 4:6 And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

God is giving Jonah an object lesson....

A. The Lord was helping Jonah understand through blessing him (by giving to him)

God is good

- God blesses
- God gave him shade when he did not even deserve it!

The point of this story: Isn't this what the Lord did for Nineveh?

- God was saying, "It is all good for God to be gracious as long as Jonah was the receiver of it"

Jonah 4:7 But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered. 8 And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

B. The Lord was helping Jonah understand by taking

Lesson here....

- Jonah was all about God withholding grace from the city of Nineveh
 - “they don’t deserve it”
- But when God held back grace from Jonah, He wanted to die

Jonah was more worried about his plant dying than He was about an entire city turning to God

Have you ever thought that maybe we get angry at God because we have our priorities wrong?

- We get focused on our shade tree, when God was focused on reaching a nation
- God is always right – God is always working

Why do we get angry with God?

II. Because we think He doesn’t care

Just because the situation does not feel good, does not mean that He does not care!

TRUTH – God is always Good!

- **God is good, but Good doesn’t always feel good**

God was like, “Jonah, I sent the whale, because I am good”

- “I sent you to Nineveh, because I care about those people – because God is good

God will allow you to go through trials, for you to learn, because HE IS GOOD!

There are things going on in your life right now, that you don’t understand

Romans 8:28 And we know that **all things work** together **for good** to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

ALL THINGS?

- **God takes everything that comes into my life and uses it for good**

Jonah 4:9 And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death. 10 Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night: 11 And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

God drops this truth on Jonah

- “There are thousands of kids that have not gone against God”
 - “Do they matter?”
 - “Do they deserve grace?”

There was more going on than what Jonah understood

Have you been angry with God?

- Thinking He does not get your situation?
- Have you thought that He does not CARE?

Remember:

- God is always right! God is always good!
- You must trust the one that knows what is BEST for your life!