


Allen Temple Baptist Church
Sunday School Live 

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Sunday February 18,2024

Title: Jonah Rejects God's Call

Text: Jonah 1:1-4,11-17, 2:1-10

Message: The Grace & Mercy of God

Instructor: Michael McCants

INTRODUCTION

God called Jonah to prophesy in Nineveh, a city of wicked people. Jonah attempted to escape from God. As a result of Jonah's disobedience, God sent a storm that impacted not only Jonah, but all the sailors around him to move Jonah into repentance and obedience.

LESSON CONTEXT

Nineveh was the capital of Assyria, an ancient ruthless nation that was a major world power for about a thousand years (1700—727 BC). Assyria had dominance in the East and Northern Israel. This was prophesied by God through the Prophet Hosea. See Hosea 11:5,6. References: (**Isaiah 10:6**; **2 Kings 18:12**).

PERSONS, PLACES & EVENTS

Jonah was the son of Amittai, who came from Gath-Hepher in Zebulun (Joshua 19:10-13).

Jonah was one of the minor prophets close behind Elisha in his place in the Old Testament.

Jonah was rebellious, stubborn and disobedient, he eventually repented, asked to die & grumbled.

PERSONS, PLACES & EVENTS

- 1). **Gath Hopher** - Home a town at Zebulun.
- 2). **Joppa** - Currently Jaffa -Tel – Aviv 60 miles away.
- 3). **Nineveh** – Capital of Assyria – 500 Miles East.
- 4). **Tarshish 2500 miles West** on Mediterranean Sea

LESSON OUTLINE

- 1). Jonah's Assignment (v.1-2)
- 2). Jonah's Disobedience (v.3)
- 3). Jonah's Devastation (vv. 4, 11-17)
- 4). Jonah's Deliverance (v.2,10)

JONAH 1:1-2 NIV

- 1). The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai:
 - 2 "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me."

JONAH 1:3 NIV

³ But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

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GOD Gave Jonah an Assignment!

JONAH'S RESPONSE TO GOD

Jonah Disobeys God
& Runs Away.



JONAH 1:4 NIV

4 Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up.

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

- 1). Why was Jonah reluctant to follow God's order?**
- 2). What did Jonah's reasons cause him to do?**
- 3). How often do we allow our thoughts to disobey GOD?

JONAH 1:11 NIV

¹¹ The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, “What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?”

JONAH 1:12 NIV

¹² "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."

JONAH 1:13 NIV

¹³ Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before.

JONAH 1:14 NIV

¹⁴ Then they cried out to the LORD,
“Please, LORD, do not let us die for taking this
man’s life. Do not hold us accountable for
killing an innocent man, for you, LORD, have
done as you pleased.”

JONAH 1:15-16 NIV

¹⁵ Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. ¹⁶ At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him.

JONAH 1:17 NIV

¹⁷ Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

JONAH 2:1,10 NIV

¹ From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God.

¹⁰ And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

- 1). Why were the sailors so afraid?
- 2). Why did Jonah prefer death to preaching to the people of Nineveh?
- 3). By refusing to preach to Nineveh, is Jonah demonstrating selfishness?

Liberating Lesson

The slogan on our money reads, “In God, We Trust.” To trust in God means to seek and obey His wisdom when making decisions. Do you believe that our leaders really seek God’s guidance in matters of state? Do you believe that God should be left out of governmental decisions?

Application for Activation

Is there something that you know God wants you to do and you are not doing?

Whatever the case, submit yourself to God and do whatever He wants you to do without worrying about the outcome. God will guide & provide more than we can imagine.

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