

Series: Jonah: Into the Depths of God's Heart and Ours

Sermon: Redemption and Resentment

Scripture: Jonah 3:10-4:11

Teacher: Bob Cargo

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Jonah 3:10-4:11 (NIV 84)

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.

¹ But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord, "O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³ Now, O Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ But the Lord replied, "Have you any right to be angry?" ⁵ Jonah went out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶ Then the Lord God provided a vine and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the vine. ⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the vine so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?" "I do," he said. "I am angry enough to die." ¹⁰ But the Lord said, "You have been concerned about this vine, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹ But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city?"

Being submissive to God's Word and God's will, and being transformed by God's compassionate grace will lead us to be aligned with the radical nature of God's global Kingdom. This is the work of Jesus in us and for us.

GOD'S WORD

GOD'S GRACE

GOD'S KINGDOM

GOD'S WORD AND GOD'S WILL - Be submissive to God's Word and Will. And keep learning it more deeply.

Jonah 1:1 NIV 84

The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai.

Jonah 3:1-2 NIV 84

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time. "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you."

GOD'S GRACE AND GOD'S COMPASSION - Be amazed and in awe of God's compassionate grace and love. And let it keep transforming you.

Jonah 4:2 NIV 84

*He prayed to the Lord, "O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a **gracious** and **compassionate** God, **slow to anger** and **abounding in love**, a God who **relents from sending calamity**.*

*"Run, John, run, the law commands,
but gives us neither feet nor hands.
Far better news the gospel brings:
It bids us fly and gives us wings."*

John Bunyan

"Learn much of the Lord Jesus. For every look at yourself, take ten looks at Christ. He is altogether lovely. Such infinite majesty, and yet such meekness and grace, and all for sinners, even the chief. Live much in the smiles of God, Bask in His beams. Feel His all-seeing eye settled on you in love, and repose in His almighty arms...Let your soul be filled with a heart-ravishing sense of the sweetness and excellency of Christ and all that is in Him." Robert Murray M'Cheyne

GOD'S CALL AND GOD'S KINGDOM - Be willing to be a conduit of this same amazing grace that has come to you, that has changed you and which you do not deserve. And embrace the discomfort, confusion and rejection that will come with seeking first His global Kingdom.

“There’s a world of difference between confident and combative Christianity. Confident Christianity constantly reminds us that this life is less important than the next. It demonstrates something of what it means to forgive and serve one another and to be on mission together within a true, visible local body. Combative “Christianity” tries to differentiate us culturally, politically, or racially from those deemed to be the irredeemable enemies.”

Christianity Today, “When the South Loosens its Bible Belt” by Russell Moore

Habakkuk 3:17-18 NIV 84

¹⁷ *Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,
¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the Lord,
I will be joyful in God my Savior.*

Our empowerment for this, our motive for this, and our source of forgiveness when we fail is the Lord Jesus, the greater Jonah! Raised on the third day but fully embracing the redemption of detestable people like each of us. He was submissive to the fathers will, was and is the perfect embodiment of God’s compassionate love and grace, and is the loving Lord his kingdom of priests chosen from among every tongue and people and nation and tribe! The Lord of love is our example and is our source of supernatural love for all around us and all around the world.

“God is both too holy and too loving to either destroy Jonah or to allow Jonah to remain as he is, and God is also too holy and too loving to allow us to remain as we are.” (132)

The Prodigal Prophet: Jonah and the Mystery of God's Mercy by Tim Keller