

The God of Compassion

Jonah 4:1-11

I. INTRODUCTION

II. JONAH FLEEING (Jonah 1:1-16)

III. JONAH CALLING (Jonah 2:1-10)

IV. JONAH PREACHING (Jonah 3:1-10)

V. JONAH SULKING (Jonah 4:1-11)

A. Jonah's Harsh Displeasure (Jonah 4:1-3)

1. Since God did not destroy the enemy of Israel, the prophet Jonah was greatly DISPLEASED and became _____ . (Jonah 4:1)

- What does this indicate about Jonah's ministry to the Ninevites?
- Is it possible for a Christian to perform a ministry in the flesh, yet it turn out for good?
- Should we care about our attitude in ministry?

2. In a prayer to God, Jonah revealed the reason for His anger was the LORD's _____. (Jonah 4:2)

- How does this prayer compare to Jonah's prayer in chapter 2?
- How is the LORD described by Jonah?
- Are these good qualities?
- If these qualities were directed at Jonah, would he be angry?
- What does this show concerning God's character?
- What does this show about Jonah thinking?
- The word relent insinuates that God changed His mind about destroying Nineveh. Does the LORD change His mind?

3. Because Jonah's ministry was successful toward His enemy, he wanted to _____ His life. (Jonah 4:3)

- What is important to note here?

B. The LORD's Soft Answer (Jonah 4:4)

1. Instead of giving Jonah what he wants or deserves, the LORD asks Jonah a compelling _____.
(Jonah 4:4)

- What is the LORD trying to do here?
- What is the LORD want for Jonah?
- What can we learn from this?
- Are we listening to the Lord when He talks to us?

C. Jonah's Hard Lesson (Jonah 4:5-9)

1. Then Jonah decided to _____ of the city and see what the LORD would do. (Jonah 4:5)

2. The LORD miraculously grew a _____ to shade his wallowing prophet. (Jonah 4:6)

- How did Jonah respond to the plant? (Jonah 4:6)
- Are we thankful for the provisions we have from the Lord?

3. The next day, the LORD prepared a _____ to kill the plant. (Jonah 4:7)

4. Then God prepared a _____ to blow, and the _____ beat down on Jonah. (Jonah 4:8)

- How did Jonah respond to the plant's demise? (Jonah 4:9)
- What does this show us about this hard lesson for Jonah?
- What do we need to be mindful of in our relationship with God?

D. The LORD's Compassion for all people (Jonah 4:10-11)

1. The LORD's final message that Jonah recorded for us was that Jonah's thinking was much _____ from His. (Jonah 4:10-11)

- The reason God showed compassion for the wicked Ninevites is because He _____ all His creation.
- Since Jonah recorded this, what may this text imply?
- What can we learn from the last chapter of Jonah?