

Jonah's Prayer

Jonah 2:1-10

Introduction

I God' Miraculous Provision

- A. God provided a great fish
 - 1. The fish **obeyed** God's call - Jn 14:21
- B. Jonah was in the fish 3 days/nights - Ps 88:6-7
 - 1. As a result of his **hard** heart
 - 2. As a foreshadowing of **Christ** - Matt 12:38-41

II Jonah's Response To God's Favor

- A. He **prayed** to the Lord – FINALLY! - Ps 116:3-9
- B. He acknowledged:
 - 1. His **desperation** – 2 Sam 22:7a
 - 2. God's attentiveness - 2 Sam 22:7b
 - 3. God's **discipline** - Heb 12:5-11
 - 4. His own helplessness
 - 5. His need for **deliverance**

III Jonah's Confession Of Faith

- A. He announces the **futility** of trusting in idols - 1 Sam 12:21; Hab 2:18-20; Isa 44:8-20
 - 1. Requires the forfeiture of **grace** - Judg 10:13-14
- B. He personally responds to God
 - 1. He **worshiped** God through:
 - a. Songs of thanksgiving
 - b. Sacrifice - Ps 50:23
 - 2. He made **vows** to the Lord - Ps 50:14-15
- C. He recognized the source of salvation - Ps 37:39-40

IV God's Response To Jonah's Prayer

- A. God **commanded** the fish to expel Jonah
- B. The fish immediately **obeyed**
 - 1. By vomiting Jonah onto dry land

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. Share a time when God called you to do something that you failed to do. What impact did your disobedience have on your life? On the lives of others? Is it too late to obey now?
2. Take a moment to consider the intricacies of God's plan in rescuing Jonah by the fish. How crucial were the time tolerances? The geographical placement? What impact does God's perfect timing and geographical placement of you have on the way you think about your family? Your job? Your neighbors? Your church? [Read Acts 17:26]
3. Take a few moments to consider what would have happened to Jonah had the fish followed his example of disobedience. As you consider this, how important do you think your obedience is to the work of God and the lives of others around you? Does your life currently reflect this belief? Why or why not?
4. What does it usually take for you to respond in obedience to God? A simple request? A storm? A near death experience? What has been the fruit of your obedience to God?
5. Is there something in particular that God is currently asking you to do? How are you responding? How should you respond?
6. Ask God to give you a heart of "first-time" obedience to God. Surrender yourself once again to His divine plan and His eternal purposes – nothing held back!

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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