

Angry with God!

Jonah 4:1-11

Introduction

I Jonah's Heart Revealed

- A. Jonah vented his displeasure - Jam 1:19-20
 - 1. His displeasure led to **anger**
 - a. He had little **self-control** - Prov 25:28; 29:11
 - b. He had little fear of God - Prov 8:13
 - c. He had little concern for the **lost** - Lk 9:51-56
 - 2. His anger led to a carnal prayer - Eph 4:26-27
- B. Jonah's grounds for anger
 - 1. The **character** of God - Ex 34:6-7
 - 2. The **mercy** of God - Matt 20:11; Lk 15:28
 - a. He relented from sending calamity - Jon 3:10
- C. Jonah's anger led to **self-pity**
 - 1. He preferred **death** to life - 1 Ki 19:3-4

II God Replied To Jonah's Anger

- A. He asked Jonah a question - Eph 2:1-5
 - 1. "Do you have a **right** to be angry?" - Lk15; Mt 18
 - 2. Jonah responded with sullen anger
- B. He gave Jonah an object lesson
 - 1. God provided a **vine** to comfort Jonah
 - 2. God provided a worm destroy the vine
 - 3. God provided a scorching **heat** - Rev 3:19; 16:8-9
- C. Jonah's response to the lesson
 - 1. He wanted to **die!**

III God Replied Again to Jonah's Anger

- A. He asked Jonah another question
 - 1. "Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?"
 - 2. Jonah responded with irrational **rage**
 - a. "I do have a **right** to be angry!"
 - b. "I am angry enough to **die!**" - Eccl 7:9
- B. He gave Jonah the conclusion of the lesson
 - 1. Jonah was concerned about a **vine**

- a. The lost **comfort** it gave him
 - b. The lost protection it gave him
 - c. The lost **joy** it gave him
- 2. God was concerned about the city of Nineveh
 - a. **120,000** Ninevites - 2 Pet 3:9
 - b. Many **cattle** as well - Ps 36:6; 145:9

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. Have you ever been angry with God? What were the circumstances? How did you justify your anger?
2. How do you normally respond when things don't "go your way"? What consequences usually result? How could you respond in a more biblical way in the future?
3. Jonah is a story of God's love and compassion for believers and unbelievers. Is there someone or a group of people that you have been spiritually calloused to (not caring whether they go to hell)? What would God have you do? Are you willing?
4. Read Matt 7:2. What kind of "measure" do you generally use to judge others? Critical/demanding or merciful/compassionate? Based on this verse, how then will God judge you?
5. What was God trying to teach Jonah through the plant, the worm and the scorching heat? Did he learn the lesson? Why/why not? How can you apply these lessons to your life?
6. Summarize the most important lessons you have learned from the study of Jonah? What will you do with these lessons?

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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