

The Most Unwilling Prophet

“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.”

Jonah 1:3 (NIV)

A STRANGE REACTION FROM THE MAN OF GOD (Jonah 1)

The danger of hardened rebellion

- Hardened rebellion changes our view of God
- Hardened rebellion alters our sense of reality
- Hardened rebellion diminishes our concern for others
- Hardened rebellion devalues our own sense of worth

THE PAIN OF PARTIAL REPENTANCE

- Jonah had a foxhole repentance

- It looks like Jonah recognized God as God, but didn't recognize him as Lord.

THE PERIL OF PARTIAL OBEDIENCE

- God said, "Go and proclaim what I tell you"
- Jonah "went proclaiming," yet God's name is absent

What's in a word (Esther 9:22; Hosea 11:8)

- When they turned, Jonah stopped!

THE PERVERSITY OF PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

- You get angry with life
- You get angry with God
- You get angry with circumstances
- You get angry with people

Some Things to Think About For the week of September 13, 2015

The people of Nineveh were among the most violent and godless people that Jonah knew of. They were to be the ones who would eventually overthrow Israel. Why didn't Jonah want to tell them what God had said? (Jonah 4:2)

Was this just a problem for Jonah? Read Luke 9:51-56.

Who were the people that James and John had problems with?

What was their offense?

What was the difference between the disciples' response and that of Jesus?

Is there a person that you might tend to have trouble with if they showed up at church? (Be honest, even if it hurts!)

How can we show the heart of God (Jonah 4:2) when we have such strong feelings?
Matthew 9:36

Luke 19:41

Luke 23:34