

LESSONS FROM JONAH

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CHAPTER 1

- Key points
 - God was displeased when Jonah tried to run
 - You can't run or hide from God
 - Psalms 33:13-14, Hebrews 4:13, Psalms 139:7-10

CHAPTER 2

- God values true repentance
 - God forced Jonah to stop and think
 - As a result, Jonah repented
- Sometimes major events can motivate us to repent
- Foreshadowing of Christ (sign of Jonah)
 - Matthew 12:38-40; 16:21; Luke 11:30; Luke 24

CHAPTER 3

- Jonah preached, Nineveh repents
 - Nineveh's repentance was genuine
 - Jeremiah 18:1-10
- Jonah was angry at their repentance
 - Why?
 - Nineveh was part of Assyria

CHAPTER 4

- Jonah let his anger go too far
 - James 1:19-20
 - God knows how to use His anger properly
 - We, often, do not
 - Anger distorts your thinking
- God was extremely patient with Jonah

APPLICATION

- God's wisdom is far greater than ours
 - Isaiah 55:8-9
- Don't run from responsibilities
 - Sometimes God wants us to do difficult things
 - We need to obey God, even when we don't like or understand it
 - Proverbs 3:5-7, Acts 5:27-29

APPLICATIONS CONT.

- God is extremely patient
 - God could have easily found someone else
 - God stuck with Jonah when he didn't deserve it
- Don't let your feelings get in the way of doing what God wants
 - We don't get to decide who should be saved and who shouldn't
 - Would you go teach the gospel to your enemies if God asked you to?

APPLICATIONS CONT.

- You never know who is going to repent
- God has mercy on those who truly repent
 - Ezekiel 18:20-28
- Don't wait until you are in trouble or for some major tragedy to repent
- We need to be consistent
- We can't ask God for forgiveness and then wish the worst on our enemies
 - James 3:8-12, Matthew 18:21-35
 - 1 Corinthians 6:11, Colossians 3:7