



# JONAH

RELUCTANCE AND REDEMPTION

**PASTOR** Hal Haller



‘Jonah, I have a mission for you...’ God

“The word of the Lord came to Jonah...’Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” Jonah 1:1-2 (NIV)



‘God, I’m running away from you...’ Jonah

“But Jonah ran away from the Lord...and sailed to Tarshish to flee from the Lord.”

Jonah 1:3 (NIV)



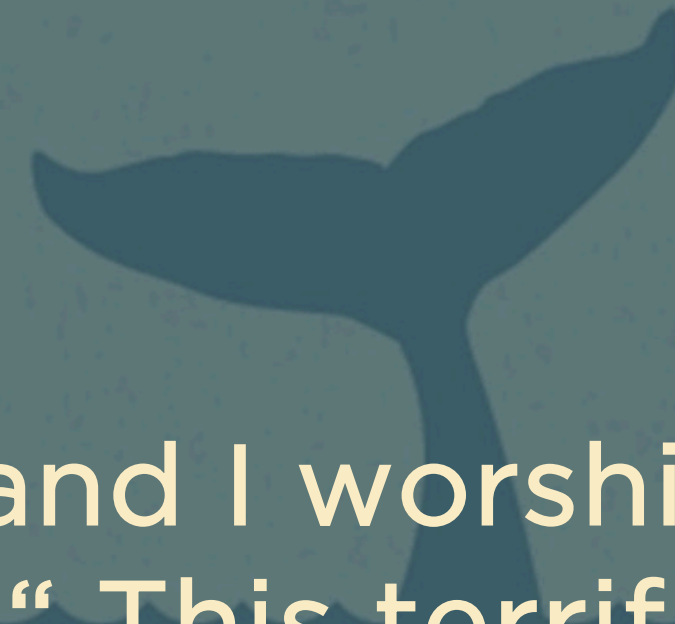


‘God, I’m running away from you...’ Jonah

“So they (the sailors) asked him, “Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you? Jonah 1:8 (NIV)



‘I messed up...’ Jonah



“He answered, “I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land. “ This terrified them and they asked, “What have you done?” (They knew he was running away from the Lord, because he had already told them so.) Jonah 1:9,10 (NIV))

# Quick Thoughts Concerning Sin



Sin negatively impacts me AND others.

When I sin, I need to come clean.

Accept the consequences of my sin.

# God's Discipline For Sin Is Loving



“In your struggle against sin...my son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.” Hebrews 12:4-6 (NIV)





‘I’m at rock bottom.’ Jonah

“They (the sailors) took Jonah and threw him overboard...The Lord provided a great fish to swallow Jonah and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.”

Jonah 1:15, 17 (NIV)

‘God, I need you.’ Jonah

“From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God...” Jonah 2:1 (NIV)



When I am in the depths, call out to God.

“But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the Lord.” Jonah 2:9,10 (NIV) ”





*“If there are 1,000 steps between you and God, God will take 999 of them and leave the last one for you.”*

**JONAH** Max Lucado  
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When I repent, God will forgive me because He loves me.

“But God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure.” 1 John 1:9 (NirV)



‘Jonah, I’m giving you a second chance.’ God

“Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give it.” Jonah 3:1-2 (NIV)



# Jonah Preaches...Nineveh Repents

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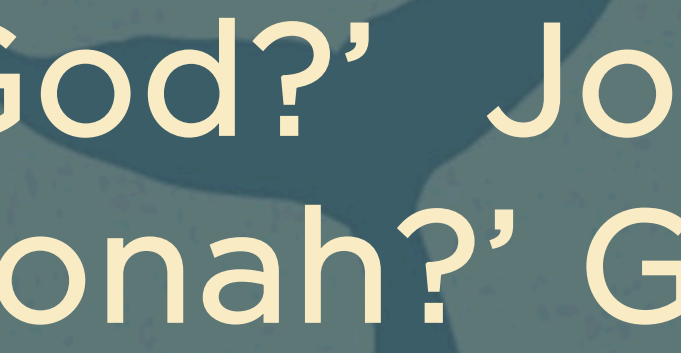
Jonah: “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned.”

Nineveh: “They believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.” Jonah 3:5 (NIV)



‘Nineveh, I will not destroy you.’ God

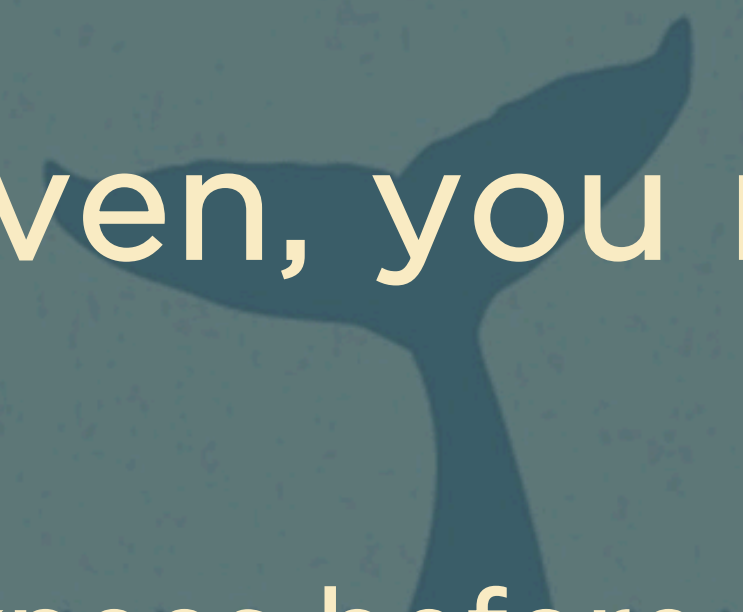
“When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.”  
Jonah 3:10 (NIV)



‘What’s your problem God?’ Jonah  
‘What’s *your problem* Jonah?’ God


“But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry. He prayed to the Lord,  
“O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so  
quick to flee Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God,  
slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.  
Now, O Lord, take my life, for it is better for me to die than to live. But the Lord  
replied, “Have you any right to be angry?” Jonah 4:1-4 (NIV)





‘Because you are forgiven, you must forgive.’ Jesus

“At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go...” Matthew 18:26, 27 (NIV)



‘Because you are forgiven, you must forgive.’ Jesus

“When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything...Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’”

Matthew 18:31-33 (NIV)



‘Jonah, where’s the love?’ God

“But God said to Jonah, “Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?”  
(Jonah) “I do.” he said. “I am angry enough to die.” But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this vine, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left...Should I not be concerned?”





“I’m ready for you to come back.”

God



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