

INTRODUCTION

Jonah the rebellious, resentful prophet? Although the view of many, we understand that Jonah's desire for justice was genuine and understandable as the Ninevites were heinous, vicious people. Even so his 'resistance was futile', Why? Because 'Salvation belongs to God', to whom he will, how he wills. Jonah's heart was convinced by God through the storm and through the fish. Such 'grace and mercy for sinners' is inconceivable, yet God showed as much to Jonah. And when you thought it was all over we see how Jonah STILL wrestled with the issue of 'Justice or Mercy'. Many valuable and challenging lessons for us as we jump in.

Read the whole book out loud together

In view of what we've studied:

Q1. How do we see God being too good in each chapter?

Q2. In what way does God's varied display of goodness relate to you through Christ?

Chapter 1:1-16 Resistance is Futile

Chapter 1:17-2:10 Salvation is of the Lord Your arms are too short to box with God

Chapter 3:1-10 Grace & Mercy for Sinners

Chapter 4:1-11 Justice or Mercy? A blinded believer in the light of God's goodness

3. CONCLUSION

Jonah has been a recipient of God's overwhelming goodness and yet seems to fail in his appreciation and therefore application as this relates to others. Although he is the main human character of the book he is not the hero, God is. Given that everyone mentioned in these four chapters deserved judgment, including Jonah, we see a wonderful picture of unmerited grace extended toward sinners - saved and unsaved!! This is a wonderful picture of the gospel portrayed in Christ Jesus, who extends forgiveness to all who would repent and believe.

3. TESTIMONIES

4. PRAYER