

Jonah Pouting: When You're Angry at God!

Jonah 4

If man, unaided by the Spirit of God, were writing the book of Jonah, it would have concluded with the close of chapter 3. Seemingly the climax had been reached with the repentance and sparing of the wicked city of Nineveh. The mercy of God had been displayed to Jonah as God preserved him from his folly and brought him to Nineveh; to the sailors who were able to see the strength and mercy of God; and to the people of Nineveh. If ever there were a cause for rejoicing, certainly those three evidences of God's mercy should provide it. We should expect Jonah himself to be leaping with joy and thanksgiving. Yet, Jonah is angry with God! Would not that part of the story have been better left untold? Why didn't God allow this journal to end with a seemingly triumphant conclusion? It's because there is still a greater climax. God wants to teach his servant certain truths about the narrowness of his heart, as well as the boundless greatness of God's own heart. There are some lessons that we learn only by experience. Some lessons are best learned by what we go through or what we observe from others. Jonah is one such example.

I. INTRODUCTION:

II. EXPOSITION:

A. Jonah's Anger at God: 4:1-3

- Jonah's Anger: "Greatly displeased"
- Jonah's Prayer: "O Lord, is this not what I said..."

B. God's Response: "Have you any right to be angry"

C. Jonah's Flight: "Went out and sat down"

D. God's Appointed Object Lessons:

- Vine
- Worm
- Wind

III. CONCLUSION AND APPLICATION

- God loves Nineveh!
- God is still willing to do whatever it takes to get you to Nineveh.
- Nineveh needs you.

(This outline is provided to assist you in understanding and applying this morning's message. Fourth and final in a series of messages by Pastor Doug Hornok on "Jonah: More than a Fish Story." This message is available online at www.MidvalleyBible.org. MBC 6/7/2015)