

Why are you so angry?

Jonah 4

Introduction:

Body:

- I. Jonah's frustration: 1-3
- II. God's intervention: 4
- III. Jonah's habitation: vs. 5-8
- IV. God's intervention: 9
- V. God's observation: 10-11

Ray Ortlund: How does God respond to his sulky prophet? He reasons with him. God asks Jonah a question — about God. “Jonah, you seem so sure of your own feelings. So let me ask your advice about my feelings. Should I not feel pity for Nineveh? Is your anger wiser than my compassion? Is my mercy to sinners an offense, or is it my glory? Tell me, Jonah, what kind of person should I be? Should I be more like you, or maybe, just maybe, should you be more like me?”¹

Application:

Edward T. Welch: Jonah's story is our story too. Jonah, along with every other OT story, is not a mere example to us. We are Jonah. We want what we want. We think we know better than God.

1. Anger only sees what it wants, not the redemptive plan of God.
2. We tend to downplay our anger and make excuses.
3. Anger reveals our idols.
4. Anger can feel righteous...that doesn't make it so.

Matthew 12:39-41: But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, *something greater than Jonah is here.*”

¹ <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/ray-ortlund/should-i/>