

March 26, 2017

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Series: Jonah – The Gospel of Hope

Today's Message: Jonah's Shocking Response

Jonah 4:1-3 *"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... a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, O Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live."*

#1. Jonah Charges _____ With Evil

- ◆ **The Real Shock**—instead of Jonah rejoicing at Ninevah repenting—Jonah is infuriated at God's _____ and mercy and asks God to kill him!
- ◆ **Jonah's Patriotic Idolatry**—would not allow him to love these people at all; he loathed the Assyrians and hated God's forgiveness to them.
- ◆ The Romans considered love of country as the highest of virtues: this priority "was employed as it were for the destruction of the rest of mankind."

Truth: It is one thing to believe the gospel with our minds and another to work it _____ into our hearts so it affects everything we think, feel, and do.

#2. Jonah's _____ Thinking

IDOL: something we look to for things that only God can give.

⇒ When an idol grips your heart—it redefines reality: Jonah now saw God's love as a bad thing.

In the End: Idols enables us to call _____ good and good evil.

#3. Jonah's Distorted Feelings [Jonah 4:4-9]

- ◆ Idols are often good things turned into ultimate things, so the _____ they generate become paralyzing and overwhelming.
- ◆ You lose your desire to live when you have lost your _____ in life.

The Ultimate Jonah: Jesus came down, died for us and rose again. [Matthew 12:40, 41]

Two Questions:

1. God asks Jonah - "Shouldn't your love be like Mine?"
2. Are we, like Jonah, willing to change?