

August 7, 2016
Jonah 4:1-11

IN THE WILL OF GOD WITHOUT THE HEART OF GOD

I. Introduction:

The Tragedy of Jonah: Being in the Will of God without the heart of God.

II. Unpacking The Passage:

Vs. 1: The _____ of Jonah

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became **angry**.

Vs. 2: The _____ and _____ of God

² He prayed to the LORD, "Isn't this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to 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.**"

Vs. 5: **Jonah's Response:** A _____

⁵ Jonah had gone out and **sat down** at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and **waited to see** what would happen to the city."

Vs. 6-11 **God's Response: He** _____

. ⁶ Then the **LORD God provided** a leafy plant^[a] and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷ But at dawn the next **day God provided** a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, **God provided** a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live."

⁹ **But God said** to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" "It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead."

¹⁰ **But the LORD said**, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?"

III. Conclusion and Application:

A. **Jesus Is The Source Of** _____

1.) God Is The God Of _____ Chances

2.) **Forgive others** as you have _____
the **forgiveness of God**

3.) The Tragedy of being in the _____ of
God without the _____ of **God**

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of August 7th to 13th
In The Will Of God Without The Heart Of God
Jonah 3:1 to 4:11

Open It:

1. If you were offered a trip to the city of your choice anywhere in the world, what city would you choose? Why?
2. *When things don't go your way, how do you tend to respond?
3. What most easily moves you to compassion?

Explore It:

4. *How did Jonah respond to God's goodness to the Ninevites? (4:1)
5. *What was the attitude of Jonah's prayer? (4:2-3)
6. What did God say to Jonah? (4:4)
7. What did the distraught prophet do? (4:5)
8. How did God deal with Jonah? (4:6-11)
9. *What did God want Jonah to understand? (4:9-11)

Get It:

10. When have you experienced a surprising, undeserved measure of God's mercy in your life?

11. Why do you think that fasting might be a useful part of repentance?
12. In your view, which culture, nation, or special interest group is undeserving of God's mercy?
13. *God was very gracious to Jonah, a pouting, reactive type. How does God deal with your prickly side?
14. How does the story of Jonah affect your view of cross-cultural ministry?
15. *Jonah wanted Nineveh, Israel's enemy, destroyed. When have you wanted revenge rather than restoration in a relationship?
16. What hard lesson have you had to learn from God?

Apply It:

17. *What is one way you can extend God's love and mercy toward others, particularly those who don't deserve it?
18. How can you express thanks to the Lord this week for all the love and mercy He has given to you and others?