



“Restoration for the Wayward”

Jonah 3:1-10

Key Quote #1 – “A boy needs a father to show him how to be in the world. He needs to be given swagger, taught how to read a map so that he can recognize the roads that lead to life and the paths that lead to death, how to know what love requires, and where to find steel in the heart when life makes demands on us that are greater than we think we can endure.” –*Anonymous*

Key Quote #2 – “Every father should remember one day his son will follow his example, not his advice.” –*Charles Kettering*

Main Passage

Jonah 3:1-10 (ESV) – ¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. ⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

**Big Idea – God is Ready to Restore But He Waits
for You to Respond to His Invitation**

Three Stages of the Law of Influence and the Arrival of Restoration

Stage #1

Key Quote – The increasing influence of the Bible is marvelously great, penetrating everywhere. It carries with it a tremendous power of freedom and justice guided by a combined force of wisdom and goodness. – **Thomas More**

Jonah 3:1-4 (ESV) – ¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

Stage #1 – A Clear Message: God’s Word Always Requires a Response... Trust Him and Follow Him Today

Stage #2

Key Quote – “Example, whether it be good or bad, has a powerful influence.” – **George Washington**

Jonah 3:5-9 (ESV) – ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. ⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

Stage #2 – A Clear Model: Be the Right Example that Brings Others Closer to the Lord

Stage #3 – A Clear Motivation: Be Moved by God’s Word to Reflect the Word and Rejoice in the Promise of His Word

Key Quote – “The godly walk in integrity; blessed are their children who follow them.” – **Solomon**

Jonah 3:9-10 (ESV) – ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

Memory Verse

Psalm 71:20-21 (NLT) – ²⁰You have allowed me to suffer much hardship, but you will restore me to life again and lift me up from the depths of the earth. ²¹You will restore me to even greater honor and comfort me once again.

Challenge

June 21, 2020

You are called to consistently apply the divine principles and truths found in the Word of God. Take the next step in your study by (1) Discussing and applying the sermon with your family or small group or (2) Participating in a Sunday School class.