

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why did Jonah flee when God gave him a task to do?
2. Why did Jonah ask to be tossed into the sea rather than repent and promise to go back to fulfill his task?
3. What lesson can we take from the experience of the Ninevites?

SUMMARY:

Jonah was requested by God to cry out against the sins of the Ninevites. Instead of doing as requested, he tried to flee from God. God reached out his hand and stopped Jonah and after some severe chastising, Jonah cried unto the Lord. The Lord spared him and gave him a second chance. He fulfilled his assignment and as a result the people repented and God's judgment was stayed. Jonah's human nature again came to the front and he was angered because God spared the Ninevites. God had to provide a lesson for Jonah so he would understand God's mercy toward repenting mankind. [\[SoF:7\]](#)

NOTES:

[\[SoF:7\]](#) We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #11

June 15, 2025

Second Quarter

JONAH, THE RELUCTANT MISSIONARY

LESSON TEXT: *The Book of Jonah*

LESSON SETTING: The sea off the coast of Joppa and in the city of Nineveh.

TIME: Approximately 862 B.C.

- I. JONAH'S COMMISSION AND FLIGHT.** Jonah 1:1-11
 - A. God's Call (vs. 2) Judges 6:12-14; Acts 26:16; 2 Corinthians 5:20
 - B. Result of Disobedience (vs. 3) 1 Samuel 12:15; Ephesians 5:6; Hebrews 2:2-3
- II. GOD'S PROVIDENTIAL INTERFERENCE.** Jonah 1:12 thru 2:10
 - A. God's Care (1:15-17) Isaiah 25:4; 1 Timothy 1:12
 - B. Prayer to God (2:1) Psalm 65:2; James 5:13
 - C. A Vow Made (2:9) Deuteronomy 23:21; Ecclesiastes 5:4
 - D. Lord Delivers (2:10) Daniel 6:22; Acts 5:18-20
- III. JONAH'S REDEDICATION AND MINISTRY.** Jonah 3:1-10
 - A. Obeying the Command (vs. 2-3) Genesis 6:22
 - B. Warning Against Sin (vs. 4) Ezekiel 33:9
 - C. The People Repent (vs. 5-9) Isaiah 22:12; 55:7
 - D. God's Mercy (vs. 10) Lamentations 3:22; Joel 2:13
- IV. GOD'S MERCY VINDICATED.** Jonah 4:1-11
 - A. Murmuring (vs. 2) Proverbs 19:3
 - B. The Lesson (vs. 6-10)
 - C. God's Forbearance Upheld (vs. 11) Acts 17:30; Romans 2:4

GOLDEN TEXT: . . . **BEHOLD, TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE . . .**
1 Samuel 15:22

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Hosea 4:1 through 6:11

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Jeremiah 31:1-34; Amos 5:1-15;
Galatians 4:19-31

QUARTERLY THEME: Kings and Prophets of Israel

TOPIC: HOSEA PLEADS FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

INTRODUCTION:

Our lesson starts out with Hosea's condemnation of Israel and Judah for their terrible sinfulness and idolatry. Prostitution, fornication and adultery did, and still do, go hand in hand with idolatry. Israel, especially Ephraim, possibly because it was one of the larger tribes and just north of Judah, was condemned to judgment before Judah because it was even more sinful. By this same token Judah was given additional opportunity to repent. Not only the people but the priests also were equally guilty of this great apostasy.

In chapter five Hosea gives a pronouncement of God's judgment on Israel and Judah so that they might repent. The message is that they shall be devoured or overrun by their enemies and taken captive (vs. 7 and 14). God would depart from them (vs. 6 and 15) and they would not find Him until they acknowledge their sin and again seek Him.

In chapter six a plea is made to the people to repent and return to the Lord so that they may be spared the judgment that otherwise is destined to befall them. God is revealed as one who earnestly and tenderly remonstrates with them.

This is the way God still deals with people today. If only men would put under the hardness of their hearts and give ear to God's pleading with them and then enjoy His love and mercy.

CENTRAL TRUTH: The righteousness God requires of us, He also provides for us.

GOLDEN TEXT: *COME, AND LET US RETURN UNTO THE LORD:
FOR HE HATH TORN, AND HE WILL HEAL US; HE HATH SMITTEN,
AND HE WILL BIND US UP.* Hosea 6:1

How much more lovingly can a plea be made to an erring soul? Can we picture in our own minds the tenderness and compassion of the Lord as He pleads with people who turn deaf ears to Him and turn their hearts away from Him? The message too is an expression of how God deals even after chastising His people. We can perhaps better visualize this when we think of a parent who spans a naughty child and then in great tenderness takes that same child into his or her arms and tenderly soothes away the "broken heart."

For those who are still today rebelling against God, we have the same warning of judgment that will surely be carried out; we have many examples of chastisement for sins but we also have the picture of the Lord's forgiveness and His healing. The greatest sacrifice of all time was made at Calvary so that men can find this healing in the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

Will you, dear one, be obedient to His plan? COME!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF June 16 – 22

Mon. The Faithfulness of God. Hosea 2:14-23
Tue. *The Unfaithful People. Hosea 4:1-19
Wed. *The Call to Return. Hosea 6:1-11
Thu. The Love of God. Hosea 11:1-12
Fri. A Plea to the People. Hosea 14:1-9
Sat. The Continued Mercy of God. Micah 6:1-8
Sun. The Grace of God. Hebrews 8:6-13

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