

Part 2: The Prayer of a Runaway

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Review Last Message

Irony Summary of Chapter 1: God sends His prophet to the enemies of Israel. Jonah, the "Son of Faithfulness," disobeys God. Jonah flees west when told to go east. Jonah goes down when told to go up. The sailors pray while the prophet sleeps. The pagans beg the prophet to pray. The sailors saw the storm as supernatural but Jonah did not. The sailors are concerned with pleasing God but Jonah is not. The pagan sailors have more care for Jonah than Jonah has for them. The sailors repent while Jonah is defiant.

1. God's Calling: To Obey

2. Jonah's Response: To Run

-Heart of A Runaway is <u>Disobedient</u>, <u>Distant</u>, <u>Denying</u>, <u>Drifting</u>,

and Defiant.

3. God's Response: To Pursue

1. JONAH'S PROTECTION: PREPARED

Jonah 1:17 (ESV)-And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Word Study: Manah (מנה) to prepare, to make ready, to assign

2. JONAH'S PRAYER: HONEST

Jonah 2:1-2 (ESV)-Then <u>Jonah prayed to the LORD his God</u> from the belly of the fish, saying, <u>"I called out to the LORD</u>, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and <u>you heard</u> my voice.

Word Study: Tsarah (צרה) - distress, calamity, anguish (this word focuses on the emotional pain)

3. JONAH'S PUNISHMENT: EARNED

Jonah 2:3-4 (ESV)-<u>For you cast me into the deep,</u> into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me all your waves and your billows passed over me. Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight...'

4. JONAH'S POSITION: HELPLESS

Jonah 2:5-6a (ESV)-The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever;

5. JONAH'S PARDON: UNDESERVED

Jonah 2:6b-8 (ESV)-yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love.

6. JONAH'S PROMISE: OBEDIENCE

Jonah 2:9 (ESV)-But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!"

Life Application Section

Pray Honestly (Jonah 2:1, Matthew 6:7, Psalm 4:1)
Believe His Goodness (Jonah 2:4, Psalm 102:17, Psalm 119:68,)
Remember God's Promises (Jonah 2:8, Psalm 145:9, Romans 8:28)
Obey His Word (Jonah 2:9, John 14:15, 2 John 1:6, James 1:25)

Here Is The Point: God hears the prayers of runaways!