

October 23, 2022 Worship Service Pastor Chris Regas WeAreLifeBridge.com

JONAH: What's Eating Jonah?

Lesson Four • Jonah 4:1-11
When Will We Ever Learn?

The "Missionary Problem" Is Always a $\underline{\mathsf{HEART}}$ Problem!

Does my heart **resent** God's heart for people not like me?

What's Eating Jonah in Chapter 4?
A heart that *resents* God's great <u>COMPASSION</u> for the lost!

Reflecting God's Heart of Great Compassion

- 1. Tender Hearts Like Our Great LORD!
 - ➤ Jonah KNEW all about the LORD'S great compassion. (vv. 1-2)
 - Jonah didn't want to be <u>LIKE</u> the LORD! (v. 3) Matthew 9:36-38

How Do We Get a Tender Heart like God's Heart?

Don't Cry Out Like Jonah

from a heart of selfishness & resentment:
"I'd rather die than have a heart like Yours for the lost!"

Cry Out Like Jesus

from a heart of sacrifice & submission:
"I'm willing to die for the lost, because I have a heart like Yours!"

Matthew 26:38-39

2. Teachable Hearts Learn the Great <u>LESSON</u> from the Great LORD!

The Preparations for the Object Lesson
The LORD God appointed a **PLANT**, a **WORM**, and an east **WIND**. (vv. 6-8)

The Revelations of the Object Lesson

Jonah's Heart Was...

- > Filled with pity for **SELF**.
- Fixed on **MATERIAL** things.
- Focused on TEMPORAL values.
- Fervent (Fanatical?!) about **SATISFYING** self.

The LORD's Heart Is...

- Filled with pity for <u>SINNERS</u>.
- Fixed on <u>SPIRITUAL</u> things.
- Focused on ETERNAL values.
- Fervent (Fanatical?!) about SAVING others.

3. Transformed Hearts by the Great LOVE of Our Great LORD!

- Sad but true, Jonah still did not learn the great lesson! (v. 9)
- Odd but true, God *still did not give up* on His hard-hearted prophet and people! (vv. 10-11)

Did Jonah Ever Learn the LORD's Great Lesson?

Go beyond *knowing* God's heart to *showing* God's heart to the lost!

Where Is Your Heart This Morning?

Stop resisting and resenting God's great compassion for sinners.

Cry out to the LORD and ask Him to change your heart and fill your heart with His great compassion for His Great Commission!

More like Jesus and less like Jonah!