

Our God Of Second Chances

Jonah Goes A.W.O.L.

Jonah 1:1-2:10

Of all Bible events, NONE is More Unbelievable than the Story of Jonah.

Most of ALL this is a Story about Second Chances...

The #1 reason to Believe the story of Jonah is true is because JESUS Did. (Matt 12:39-40)

How can God Speak to YOU & I through What Happened to JONAH?

1. **GOD INVITES US TO JOIN HIM IN HIS WORK.**
 - “Now, the word of the Lord “CAME” to Jonah...” (v.1a)
 - We don't know HOW God Spoke to Jonah, All we know is, HE DID!
 - God's CALL on our lives is Just as Personal as it Was With Jonah.
2. **SOMETIMES, WE DON'T LIKE WHAT GOD SAYS.**
 - “The Wickedness of Nineveh...Smelled to High Heaven.”
 - WHY would God send Jonah to PREACH to His Enemies in Assyria?
 - God's Call for US is to share the LOVE of Jesus across the Way & around the World.
 - We often DEFY God when He Guides US in directions that WE Don't Want to GO.
3. **TURNING FROM GOD IS ALWAYS THE WRONG WAY.**
 - Instead of being Thankful & Setting out to Serve God...JONAH RAN.
 - Because God has given us a FREE WILL...WE CAN tell God...“NO?”
 - You can Fight it, Run from it OR Surrender to it BUT PEACE only comes when you Surrender to God's Will.
4. **IF WE RUN FROM GOD, SATAN PROVIDES A WAY.**
 - Anytime we Fall Away from the Lord it's Always a Calculated Decision.
 - Sometimes we Justify our Actions by saying, But I Found an Open door.
 - Satan will Do Anything in his power to Help you Be Disobedient to God!
5. **RUNNING AWAY FROM GOD IS ALWAYS A DOWNWARD SPIRAL.**
 - Any Path that leads you AWAY from God is DOWNHILL.
 - Jonah Went DOWN to Joppa, He Went DOWN into the ship & He Went DOWN into the Lowest Part of the ship to Sleep.
 - Those who Go A.W.O.L. soon Find Out that although their Ship was Ready & Sailed On Time, they're Sailing into a STORM.

- When you **GO the LORD'S WAY** you **ALWAYS Get Where You're Going & HE always PAYS The Fare.**"