

Jonah 3-4

Jonah's Anger

Introduction

Question: What little things irritate you or bring you joy?

Life is full of minor joys and irritations. Finding a parking place in rush hour can make us very happy. Finding a flat tire when we return can make us miserable. We discover that Jonah also cared a great deal about life's little ups and downs. Although his petty passions seem amusing, they also invite us to reexamine what we really care about.

Jonah 3

Question: If you were Jonah, how would you feel when the word of the Lord came to you a second time (vv. 1-2)?

Question: What evidence is there that the Ninevites were sincere in their repentance (vv. 5-9)?

Question: How and why does the Lord respond to the Ninevites (v. 10)?

Question: What view of God do the Ninevites express in this chapter?

Question: What actions can we take to demonstrate the sincerity of our repentance?

Jonah 4

Question: Why was Jonah greatly displeased and angry (vv. 1-3)?

Question: Did these things give him any right to be angry (v. 4)?

Question: Evidently the forty days had already passed (3:10). Why then do you think Jonah still waited to see what would happen to the city (v. 5)?

Question: How does the Lord use the vine as an object lesson for Jonah (vv. 6-11)?

Question: In what ways are we sometimes more concerned about petty things than about those under God's judgment?

Reflection

How does God's treatment of you motivate you to reach out to those who don't know him?