

SERMON STUDY QUESTIONS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018

1. Read Jonah 4:1-11
2. As Jonah ch.3 came to an end we saw the entire city of Nineveh repent at the preaching of Jonah, something Jesus Himself confirms in Matt.12 and Luke 11. But our text in v.1 says "It displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry." Literally "it was a great evil to Jonah." So Jonah believed this was a moral evil that had happened and he was infuriated by it, so that he wanted to die. What is it that got Jonah to this point where he despised God's mercy so much?
3. What is self-righteousness? What is the great danger of self-righteousness? Why does self-righteousness despise divine mercy?
4. Read the Parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11:32. The older son is a picture of the self-righteous Pharisees. In looking at the older son, what is the fruit of self-righteousness?
5. How can you identify self-righteousness in your heart? How can you deal with the self-righteousness in your heart and begin to uproot it?
6. God reveals Himself to be full of compassion in this book. Jonah of course had a hard time with that. How do you view God? What can help you orient your view of God to be more in line with the way He has revealed Himself to you in Scripture?
7. The entire saga ends with a question from God to Jonah that is meant to teach him the main lesson of the entire book. There God says to him, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle." What is God asking Jonah?
8. Why does the book of Jonah end so abruptly without answering its main question? How do *you* answer that final question?
9. What practical implication or application can you make from this text/sermon?
10. Pray!