

JONAH

DEEP GRACE

What Did He Do? (Jonah 3)

1) What did the king do? - Humbled Himself (Jonah 3:5-9) (Issued a proclamation for the city to repent)

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.
James 4:7-10

2) What did Jonah do? - Obeyed God (Jonah 3:1-4) (He proclaimed the word of the Lord)

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it. ² John 1:6

. . . take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your rules. ⁴⁴ I will keep your law continually, forever and ever, Psalm 119:43-44

3) What did God do? - Revealed His Character - Deep Grace (Jonah 3:1-2 10)

- He did not relent and called Jonah a 2nd time
- He relented and did not destroy the city because of their repentance

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ² Peter 3:9

PART I: THE OBEDIENCE OF A PROPHET

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying,

² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." (HEB - just 5 words) ³ So **Jonah arose** and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord.

Now Nineveh was an exceedingly **great city**, three days' journey in breadth.

⁴ **Jonah began** to go into the city, going a day's journey. And **he called** out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

PART II: THE HUMILITY OF A KING & CITY

⁵ And the **people of Nineveh believed** God (ELOHIM). They **called for a fast and put on sackcloth**, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

⁶ The **word reached** the king of Nineveh, and **he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.**

⁷ And **he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh**, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸ but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹ **Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.**"

PART III: THE DEEP GRACE OF GOD

¹⁰ When **God saw** what they did, **how they turned from their evil way**, **God relented** of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it.

And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12:2-3

Discussion Questions

- Read Jonah 3:1-2. Have you experienced a fresh beginning in your walk with God? Discuss.
- Read Psalm 119:43-44. Do you find your hope on God's word? Explain.
- Read Jonah 3:5-9. Are you surprised by the response of the people of Nineveh? Discuss.
- Pray for the strength to obey God, to be humbled by his love, and to be overwhelmed by his deep grace.