



## Lesson #11: Resentment (Jonah)

I believe that Jonah is not just a tale about a man and a big fish but a story about God and His \_\_\_\_\_!

- Chapter 1 – Jonah \_\_\_\_\_ against God (God’s presence is seen)
- Chapter 2 – Jonah \_\_\_\_\_ to God (God’s \_\_\_\_\_ is seen)
- Chapter 3 – Jonah \_\_\_\_\_ God (God’s \_\_\_\_\_ is seen)
- Chapter 4 – Jonah resented God (God’s \_\_\_\_\_ is seen)

. After proclaiming God’s message of repentance and watching the wicked nation of Nineveh forsake their foolish ways Jonah goes to the outside of the city and resents what God is doing. He though God was making a \_\_\_\_\_. Have you ever been there? Have you ever become upset and begun to question what God is doing? In the story of Jonah we learn that because God is \_\_\_\_\_ you must never resent his decisions.

### THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF RESENTMENT

Jonah calls his conversation in 4:1-3 a “prayer” and it was in a sense speaking to God. But this was more of a \_\_\_\_\_ than a \_\_\_\_\_ of spirit.

#### A. “I said” (4:2) – A false view of \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah tried to correct God. He wanted God to conform to his wishes, not vice-versa. Why is it that we believe that we can convince God that He doesn’t know what He is doing in either His treatment of others or His calling of us?

#### B. “I fled” (4:2) – A false view of \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah decided to try to thwart God’s plan by refusing to \_\_\_\_\_. He understood that it was God’s purpose to have his message of true repentance preached to the Assyrians but he refused to let God’s purpose be his purpose.

#### C. “I knew” (4:2) – A false view of \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah knew all this about God and he \_\_\_\_\_ it. He hated it because he hated that God would offer salvation to a people group he hate.

### THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF RESENTMENT

We see in the life of Jonah the sad prevalence of a carnal spirit and how it will negatively impact even God’s choice servants.

#### A. Resentment affects your \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah had a \_\_\_\_\_ heart. On the one hand, he was God’s spokesman for morality. But on the other hand, he was full of hatred and contempt. In short, Jonah’s complain reveals his misplaced, ungodly, and deep-seated values.

#### B. Resentment affects your \_\_\_\_\_ life

Jonah valued his \_\_\_\_\_ more than God’s. His prayer request was literally that God would take his life. Jonah’s resentment has leaked all the way through his soul and now he is praying that God would kill him.

#### C. Resentment affects your \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah’s priorities were all out of whack. He prioritized \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_, damnation over salvation, prejudice over kindness, and \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_. Ultimately, he prioritized himself over others.

### THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF RESENTMENT

4:6-11 carries with it the \_\_\_\_\_ to the resentful prophet.

#### A. God \_\_\_\_\_ Jonah’s lack of compassion

God comes full-circle to the big issue that Jonah needs to deal with – “*Doest thou well to be \_\_\_\_\_ for the gourd?*” (4:9). Jonah resented anything that made him feel uncomfortable.

#### B. God \_\_\_\_\_ His love and compassion

Throughout the book of Jonah we read of a prophet filled with \_\_\_\_\_ but we also read of a God who is not a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. The book ends abruptly with a question to point to this very truth.

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Perhaps there are some question you want to ask Jonah as you read his story.

- Jonah, what could possibly have caused you to \_\_\_\_\_ God?
- Jonah, how can you know so much about God, and be so little like God?
- Jonah, how can you be so \_\_\_\_\_ when you have been shown so much \_\_\_\_\_?
- Jonah, how could you have more concern for \_\_\_\_\_ matters than \_\_\_\_\_ matters?

These are not just questions I need to ask Jonah. These are questions I need to ask \_\_\_\_\_. The answer to them all is that I don’t have a heart like God’s.