

Jonah 2

God's Faithfulness

Jonah Cries out to the Lord

Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish:

¹⁰ *Then the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.*

1. Jonah prayed. The Lord answered Jonah.
2. Jonah cried out from Sheol. The Lord heard his voice.

Psalm 22:24 (CSB): *He did not hide his face from him but listened when he cried to him for help.*

Remember being a teenager and doing something and thinking, “boy I hope my parents don’t find out”? Often times when we got in trouble we would try to hide or run away from our parents.

Our relationship with God isn’t like that. Because of Jesus...we can cry out Abba Father. And now when we sin, mess up, fail...we should not respond I need my Father...rather than hoping He doesn’t find out.

Jonah has come to the realization of his sinful actions; thus, he cries out to God. We don’t run and hide from God when we “mess up”; like when Adam and Eve hid in the garden. We run into His presence like David in Psalm 51.

The Sign of Jonah

Matthew 12:38-42 (CSB)

³⁸ *Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from you.”* ³⁹ *He answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation demands a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For as Jonah was in the belly of the huge fish three days and three nights, so the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights. ⁴¹ The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at Jonah’s preaching; and look—something greater than Jonah is here. ⁴² The queen of the south will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and look—something greater than Solomon is here.*

Jonah died and was resurrected on the third day. Went to declare the Word of God and the people were redeemed. Which points to a better Jonah in Jesus. Died, buried and rose from the dead on the third day so that God’s people can be redeemed.

Often the questions arise...where is Sheol? Where was Jesus in the heart of the earth?

Sheol – general word for place of the dead good or bad. Used throughout the OT. The OT saints didn’t speak of heaven and hell. The Greek equivalent is hades (no hell). Hades is the Greek general word for place of the dead. Good or bad.

Where did Jesus go after His death?

On the cross the wrath of God was satisfied.

Jesus did not have to suffer in hell. The work was finished.

We know from Luke 23:43 that Jesus went to paradise. We know paradise is not heaven because of John 20:17.

Luke 23:43 (CSB): *And he said to him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."*

John 20:17 (CSB): *"Don't cling to me," Jesus told her, "since I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."*

He proclaimed the gospel to the saints of old and at His resurrection...those rose with Him.

- 1 Peter 3:19 (CSB): *in which he also went and made proclamation to the spirits in prison*
- Ephesians 4:7-10 (CSB): *⁷ Now grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ For it says: **When he ascended on high, he took the captives captive; he gave gifts to people.** ⁹ But what does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ The one who descended is also the one who ascended far above all the heavens, to fill all things.*
- Luke 16:19-31 (CSB): *²³ And being in torment in Hades, he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off, with Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ 'Father Abraham!' he called out, 'Have mercy on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this flame!' ²⁵ "'Son,' Abraham said, 'remember that during your life you received your good things, just as Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here, while you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, a great chasm has been fixed between us and you, so that those who want to pass over from here to you cannot; neither can those from there cross over to us.'*
- Sheol – Jacob - Genesis 37:35 (CSB): *All his sons and daughters tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said. "I will go down to Sheol to my son, mourning." And his father wept for him.*
 - o Sheol = Hades – Hades does not = Hell
- Psalm 49:15 (CSB): *But God will redeem me from the power of Sheol, for he will take me.*
- Psalm 86:13 (CSB): *For your faithful love for me is great, and you rescue my life from the depths of Sheol.*
- Psalm 89:48 (CSB): *What courageous person can live and never see death? Who can save himself from the power of Sheol?*
- Jesus was different
 - o Psalm 16:10 (CSB): *For you will not abandon me to Sheol; you will not allow your faithful one to see decay.*
 - o Acts 2:29-33 (CSB): *²⁹ "Brothers and sisters, I can confidently speak to you about the patriarch David: He is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn an oath to him to seat one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was to come, he spoke concerning the resurrection of the Messiah: **He was not abandoned in Hades, and his flesh did not experience decay.** ³² "God has raised this Jesus; we are all witnesses of this. ³³ Therefore, since he has been exalted to the right hand of God and has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit, he has poured out what you both see and hear.*