

Jonah

Re-programming
the Prophet

Introduction

Matthew 12:39–40—But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

1 Corinthians 15:12–14, 17—Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain... ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

Philippians 1:6—And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Introduction

- I. **Our need of re-programming**
- II. **God's means of re-programming**
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Our need of re-programming

Jonah's Rebellion

Tarshish?



Our need of re-programming

Jonah's Rebellion

Psalm 139:7–10—Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! ⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

Our need of re-programming

Jonah's Reason

Nahum 3:1–4—Woe to the bloody city, all full of lies and plunder— no end to the prey ²The crack of the whip, and rumble of the wheel, galloping horse and bounding chariot! ³Horsemen charging, flashing sword and glittering spear, hosts of slain, heaps of corpses, dead bodies without end— they stumble over the bodies! ⁴And all for the countless whorings of the prostitute, graceful and of deadly charms, who betrays nations with her whorings, and peoples with her charms.

Our need of re-programming

Application

Ephesians 5:3—But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

God's means of re-programming

God controls His creation

Matthew 8:26–27—And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?” Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. ²⁷ And the men marveled, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?”

Matthew 17:27—However, not to give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth you will find a shekel. Take that and give it to them for me and for yourself.”

Daniel 6:22—My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm.”

God's means of re-programming

God uses His creation

2 Peter 2:15–16—Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, ¹⁶ but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

Exodus 10:13—So Moses stretched out his staff over the land of Egypt, and the Lord brought an east wind upon the land all that day and all that night. When it was morning, the east wind had brought the locusts.

God's means of re-programming

God uses His creation

Daniel 3:15, 24-25, 27—Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?" ...²⁴ Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." ²⁵ He answered and said, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods." ...²⁷ And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men. The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them.

God's means of re-programming

God teaches through His creation—application

Exodus 2:7–9—Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" ⁸ And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹ And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him.

Philippians 1:6—And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

God's accomplishments through re-programing

Repentance of Nineveh

2 Peter 3:9—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.

God's accomplishments through re-programing

Salvation of sailors

Acts 2:23— This Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

God's accomplishments through re-programing

Glory to God

John 9:3—Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.

Romans 11:32–36—For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all. ³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁴ “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” ³⁵ “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” ³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

God's accomplishments through re-programming

Reprogramming of prophet

1 Thessalonians 5:23–24—Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; **he will surely do it.**

Conclusion

Reprogramming of prophet

Genesis 47:9—And Jacob said to Pharaoh, “The days of the years of my sojourning are 130 years. Few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojourning.”

Romans 12:2—Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Mark 1:15—and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”