

# Sitting in the Dark

## (Series - Jonah: A Life on the Run)

### Jonah 2:1-10

#### INTRODUCTION

Please turn in your Bibles to **Jonah 2:1-10**. We return this morning to our study of 'Jonah: A Life on the Run'. **Read verses...then...** This is the part that everyone remembers! This is also the part that skeptics reject. This chapter is a prayer, and it reads like a Psalm. This is a rescue story. It's a story about how God sometimes must bring us very low to raise us again to ourselves, our duty and our proper worship and service. It's a story about a God who knows how to save and restore His people. It's a story about how down is the way up and how death is the way home.

This morning we focus on a man's prayer. In this chapter, we find **Jonah's** psalm. There are **three divisions** to this chapter.

*First....*

#### **I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the prayer (2:1)**

This verse provides a historical setting and answers 2 critical questions – **when & where**. *First...*

##### **A. When**

*Next, please note the...*

##### **B. Where**

The real question: **Is there a big enough God for this to occur?** The size of your God will determine your ability to recognize the miraculous. Assumptions do make a difference. **The Word of God is always a return to reality;** regardless of how we think, the Word of God brings us back to reality.

So, **verse 1** answers the questions of *when and where*. In vv. 2-8, we answer the question of **what**.

*For this we turn to...*

#### **II. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the prayer (2:2-9)**

These words aren't so much a prayer for help as they are a prayer of thanksgiving for the way that God has rescued **Jonah**.

**3 words** help us understand the substance of the prayer...

##### **A.**

In studying this prayer, we make a remarkable discovery. **What did he do?** He simply prayed Scripture; he prayed the word of God. Check it out with me.

- **Jonah 2:2** – compare to **Psalm 18:6; 120:1; 86:13**.
- **Jonah 2:3** – compare to **Psalm 88:6; 42:7**
- **Jonah 2:4** – compare to **Psalm 31:22**
- **Jonah 2:5** – compare to **Psalm 69:1-2**
- **Jonah 2:6** – compare to **Psalm 30:3**

**The reason we have such a light view of sin is because we have such a small view of God.**

##### **B. \_\_\_\_\_**

##### **C. \_\_\_\_\_**

**Read v. 9...then...** Notice what is stated in this verse.

3 aspects to his repentance...his response to his experience:

- **Sacrifice** – In the OT, Jews brought sacrifices to God. This is what Jonah has in mind. Today, God calls us to be a living sacrifice – **Rom 12:1-2**.

*Note what happens next in the story...*

### III. The \_\_\_\_\_ to the prayer (2:10)

### **CONCLUSION**

**What can we take with us this morning?** Let's close our time together in God's word by looking at **Matthew 12**, where Jesus mentions **Jonah** in the belly of the fish. *"Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw."* (Matt. 12:22). The crowd saw this and were amazed, thinking that perhaps Jesus was the Christ (12:23). But the scribes and Pharisees attributed the miraculous power of Jesus to demons (12:24) Jesus then rebuked those who didn't believe (12:25-37) We pick the conversation in **verse 38 (read vv. 38-40)**.

Why was Jesus there in the heart of the earth? Here are ten **reasons**:

1. *He was there because He was crucified according to God's plan (Acts 4:28).*
2. *He was there because He had paid for our sins by dying upon the cross as a sacrifice (Galatians 3:13).*
3. *He was there because God forsook Him upon the cross, so that He might not forsake us (Matthew 27:46).*
4. *He was there because He didn't open His mouth but became as a lamb led to slaughter (Isaiah 53:7).*
5. *He was there because He chose not to save Himself, so that He could save others (Matthew 27:42).*
6. *He was there that He might taste death for us (Hebrews 2:9).*
7. *He was there because He showed His love to us in laying down His life for His friends (John 15:13).*
8. *He was there to fulfill prophesy that the Son of Man would suffer and die for the sins of His people (Mark 10:33-34).*
9. *He was there to inaugurate the New Covenant through His blood (Luke 22:20).*
10. *He was there that we might enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus (Hebrews 10:19).*

*For you, child of God...here's some truths to cherish:*

1. **God can deliver you if you \_\_\_\_\_.**
2. **God can deliver you when it seems that there's no \_\_\_\_\_.**
3. **God can deliver you, but you must \_\_\_\_\_ Him alone.**
4. **God can deliver you because He is in \_\_\_\_\_ of everything.**