

## ***Running Away from God***

### **Jonah 1:1-3**

#### Main Point:

Instead of running away from God, trust that He knows best and hold fast to His Word.

1. God makes His will known to you in the Bible.
2. But you struggle to obey God's will because you often disagree with Him.
3. Whenever you allow your opinion to prevail, you're effectively running away from God.
4. Running away from God is both a costly and foolish thing to do.
5. Instead, you should trust that God knows best and hold fast to His Word.

## **Cross-References and Quotations**

**Sinclair Ferguson** "It has been well said that our problem in obeying God is not that we do not understand what he is saying, but that we do!"

**Jonah 4:1-3** <sup>1</sup> But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup> So he prayed to the LORD, and said, "Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You *are* a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm. <sup>3</sup> "Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for *it is* better for me to die than to live!" (NKJV)

**Psalms 139:7-8** <sup>7</sup> Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? <sup>8</sup> If I ascend into heaven, You *are* there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You *are there*. (NKJV)

**Gordon Keddie** "The general principle is ... that when someone turns away from the will of God for his life, then he is willfully putting himself out of God's presence and denies himself the blessing which is attached to happy obedience."

**David Whitla** "The cost of the great omission is far greater than the cost of the great commission."

**Hebrews 10:5-7** <sup>5</sup> Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. <sup>6</sup> In burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin You had no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'Behold, I have come-- In the volume of the book it is written of Me-- To do Your will, O God.'" (NKJV)

**Richard Phillips** "Why did Jesus obey such a command as to die on the cross? He obeyed because he knew and trusted God the Father, just as we have every reason to do. He knew that God is faithful and that all his purposes are holy and good."