

### **EDGEMONT BIBLE CHURCH**

PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE

# "BEING A RESTORED HUMAN"



## "AND AS FOR ME,..." Part 1: Intro JONAH 1:1-4:11

INTRO: From the last verse of Jonah

- A. The story of a prophet's <u>life</u> rather than his words; narrative rather than poetry
- B. A message of <u>judgment</u> to the fastest growing empire in the world that was quickly rising to control all the land mass from India through the Mediterranean Sea
- C. A message from God about control, power, sovereignty and the character/nature of God
- D. An account of <u>contrasts</u> to gain perspectives
- I. GREATNESS: WHO IS IN CONTROL?
  - A. 13 times "great" is used in this small book
    - 1. A great city 1:2, 3:2,3 Nineveh of Assyria BUT... ISA 10:5-19
    - 2. A great wind and a mighty tempest 1:4 BUT...
      1:4 shows it was not "natural" but a wind was <u>hurled</u> from God to stir up the tempest
    - 3. These "salties" had great fear 1:10
    - 4. They developed great <u>belief</u> in the one true God 1:16
    - 5. A great fish swallowed Jonah 1:17 BUT God had prepared it
    - 6. A city-wide fast is proclaimed that included the greatest of them to the least of them 3:5,7 (5-9) What are they controlling?
    - 7. Jonah is exceedingly displeased 4:1; gets angry

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- 8. Jonah gets exceedingly glad about the shade from the plant 4:6 BUT God had appointed the plant for the shade and it is God that will appoint a worm to destroy the plant. He then appointed a scorching wind to make him miserable
- 9. God speaks of his compassion on the great city of Nineveh in which there were 120,000 who did not know the right hand from the left hand
- B. Regardless of the event, the obstacle or the benefit, God is in control. The <u>response</u> to it will always be what grants God's mercy and grace. Humility plus faith
- C. We can know that God was <u>developing</u> the leadership in Assyria that would be necessary to carry out His will against His disobedient people
- D. We can also know that He was sending His prophet to the wicked Assyrians to grant them repentance and faith before He judges them
- E. Additionally we can see that His own people were unresponsive to His prophets. Jonah is a miniature <u>picture</u> of what Israel was doing
- *F.* God's actions here are the living out of Exo 34:6-7
  - 1. Sovereign
  - 2. Compassionate
  - 3. Gracious
  - 4. Slow to anger (longsuffering)
  - 5. Abounding in covenant loyalty and truth
  - 6. Forgiving, impartially just, unrelenting

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