

SERMON NOTES

A Second Chance: Jonah Speaks for His Great and Compassionate God

Jonah 3:1–10 | Matt Green | July 26, 2020

A Second Chance for Jonah (3:1–3)

- God repeats His instructions for Jonah a second time
- This time, Jonah obeys the Lord
- God has Jonah's attention now!
- *God is a God of second chances — we should be people quick to offer second chances to those who offend and wrong us*

A Message for a Great City (3:3–4)

- Nineveh is a great city (3:3)
 - Great in size and importance
 - But above all, great to God
- Jonah begins his mission his first day in Nineveh (3:4)
- Jonah's message (3:4)
 - “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown”
 - Doesn't appear to offer opportunity for repentance
 - A simple message
 - *God uses simple messages in powerful ways by the work of the Holy Spirit*

JONAH 3: A SECOND CHANCE

JULY 26, 2020

Great Repentance by a Great City (3:5–9)

- The Ninevites believe the message, knowing it is from God, not just from Jonah (3:5)
- The people fast and dress in sackcloth
- The king issues a decree (3:6–9)
 - He sets the example by wearing sackcloth and sitting in ashes
 - He calls for fasting and wearing of sackcloth by man and beast alike
 - He calls for the people to truly repent — turn from their evil
 - The king reasons God may turn from His anger
- Even in messages of destruction, God desires repentance

“If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it.” (Jeremiah 18:7-8)

God Relents of Disaster (3:10)

- The Lord is moved to compassion by Nineveh’s response
- The Lord spares the city the planned calamity
- Sins are not simply ignored — they are paid for in Christ

Do We Live Like Children of the God of Second Chances?

- Do we readily forgive and extend second chances to others?
- Have we accepted His “second chance” of new life in Christ?