

## Jonah -The Angry Child

### Chapter 4:1-11

#### I. The Displeasure of Jonah --

**Jonah 4:1-3** " <sup>1</sup> But it greatly displeased Jonah and he became angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the Lord and said, "Please Lord, was not this what I said while I was still in my own country? Therefore in order to forestall this I fled to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity. <sup>3</sup> "Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for death is better to me than life."

- A. How did Jonah react when the Ninevites repented? V1
- B. Why did Jonah feel in this way? V2a
- C. What made God turn from His anger to destroy Nineveh? V2b
- D. What is God's question to people who are angry with Him? v4

**v4** The Lord said, "**Do you have good reason to be angry?**" <sup>5</sup> Then Jonah went out from the city and sat east of it. There he made a shelter for himself and sat under it in the shade until he could see what would happen in the city.

#### II. God prepares a second lesson for Jonah: v6-8

##### A. What good thing came?

**-v6** So the Lord God appointed a plant and it grew up over Jonah to be a shade over his head to deliver him from his discomfort. And Jonah was extremely happy about the plant.

##### B. What two bad things came after?

**-v7** "But God **appointed a worm** when dawn came the next day and it attacked the plant and it withered. <sup>8</sup> When the sun came up God **appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on Jonah's head** so that he became faint and begged with all his soul to die, saying, "Death is better to me than life."

1. **Observation:**
2. **Application:** Just like in the life of Job...
  - a. What do you do when God sends something good in your life?
  - b. What do you do when God takes away the good things?
  - c. What do you do when He sends difficulty (severity)?

### III. God has the right to have compassion on people –

*-v9 Then God said to Jonah, “Do you have good reason to be angry about the plant?” And he said, “I have good reason to be angry, even to death.”<sup>10</sup> Then the Lord said, “You had compassion on the plant for which you did not work and which you did not cause to grow, which came up overnight and perished overnight.*

#### A. When does man not have the right to be angry:

1. When we do not labor for something we lost v10.
2. When we do not cause something to come into being.
3. When everything we have is by the grace of God.

### IV. Why does God have the right to be merciful? V11

*v11 “Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?””*

#### A. God’s example of how to respond to people that have no sense of right and wrong?

##### 1. Areas where people can lack a great amount of sense:

- a. Moral sense -
- b. Financial sense –
- c. Parenting sense –
- d. Marriage sense –

##### 2. How did Jonah treat these people? How did God treat Jonah when he fled?

##### 3. How do we biblically treat these people? - 1 Thes 5:14-15