

SLEEPING AT THE ZERO HOUR

Text: *Jonah 1:5: Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay and was fast asleep.*

Jonah was a man who knew God - yet he attempted the impossible in trying to get away from God!

Jonah 1:1a: The Word of the Lord came unto Jonah.

It was an unwelcome call to arise and go down to cry against the wickedness of Nineveh. Jonah didn't care a thing about those people because they didn't belong to his church. He wanted to pick his congregation. In his heart, there was "respect of persons".

He felt it was useless to try any excuse-making with God. There was only one thing to do - and that was to flee from God's Presence.

We often forget there is, in every soul, an insatiable longing to be right with God — an unquenchable **soul, an insatiable** desire for peace of mind and soul. Jesus said:

***We often forget
there is, in every
longing to be right
with God . . .***

Mark 16:15b: Preach the Gospel to every creature.

Barring none! Peter had to learn this lesson also (See **Acts 10**).

Jonah turned in his resignation to God as a preacher for he had no sympathy. He had made up his mind that whatever the cost, he was not going to preach to those down and outers.

Where is your Nineveh? Across the street? Next door? At work?

Tarshish is the city of "have-your-own-way". It is the city of "do as you please". It is the city of "take it easy".

We meet Jonah on the wharf. He passed through a terrible time getting there, fighting against God. Oh, Jonah, are you on a preaching mission? He shakes his head, "No". Jonah - you look bad. Are you sick?

When you make up your mind to flee from the divine call from God, you are refusing *Him*, rebelling against *Him*. It is absolutely useless to say "Lord", and

do not the things He says. It is mockery.

Only when we begin to go wrong do we want to get away from God. Only when Adam and Eve sinned did they seek to run from God's Presence.

Only when we begin to go wrong do we want to get away from God.

You cannot run and escape from God. His Presence is tormenting to a rebellious will. Because of His Presence, men and women will cry out to the rocks and mountains to fall on them to hide them.

You cannot run and escape from God.

Luke 23:30: Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us.

Revelation 6:16: And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him Who sitteth on the Throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

When God begins to deal with those who rebel against Him, He will complete the task. The eye of God was upon Jonah, and he could not run from God. (You cannot, either, sinner!)

Jonah paid the fare and went down to the ship. He paid more than he expected. The fare is not all paid at once. Look at the shattered reputation, the blasted character you are paying for your sins now, Prodigal. Jonah went down, down, down. It is easy to go down - but the path is sprinkled with tears and heartaches.

God is disclosing to the world the meanness of his servant.

Numbers 32:23: Be sure your sin will find you out.

God deals with mankind as individuals.

Jonah saw the shore drifting out of sight and a deadly calm came upon him - a man with his mind made up to do wrong is far from safety.

The devil is always on hand to rock the cradle of a sheep, saint. We see this in the Parable of the 10 virgins where 5 of them fell asleep and missed the Coming of the Bridegroom. The devil is never too busy to lead a backslider to spiritual death. Jonah thinks the battle is over now, and he is receiving help from the devil for his rebellion against God — a ship, and sleeping powers from satan.

He is coming to *the zero hour of his life*. Before a restless rebel enters into spiritual sleep, he must go against many warnings from the Lord. He is in the most dangerous place now that any disobedient soul can get into. As long as your sins break your heart and your disobedience keeps you awake nights, there is hope.

Sleeping, gospel-hardened Christians are a positive hindrance to others finding Christ.

God will stop all Jonahs in the midst of their efforts to get away from Him. God disclosed to the world what Jonah had done.

As long as your sins break your heart and your disobedience keeps you awake nights, there is hope.

Jonah 1:7-10

7 And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

8 Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

9 And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of Heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.

10 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the Presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

God then forced Jonah to make a public confession and set himself right before men.

Jonah 1:11-16

11 Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

12 And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest [windy storm] is upon you.

13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them.

14 Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech Thee, O LORD, we beseech Thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for Thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased Thee.

15 So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

16 Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.

The Accusing Call: The heathen skipper believed in prayer. Our country is crammed with such heathen men and women who believe in prayer only when their lives are in danger. Here is a shipload of souls in peril, because a servant of God is out of touch with God. Jonah is forcing doom upon them, and he is found out!! *Be sure your sins will find you out.*

They cast lots. God always puts the right cap on the right head — just like Achan was found out; and also David whom the prophet Nathan accused of his hidden sin.

As we see in verse 6, unconfessed sin leads to a shut mouth in prayer. This is why many give up praying.

Jonah 1:6: So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

In verse 8, Jonah is asked, “What is your occupation?”

Jonah 1:8: Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

If people have to ask us if we are Christians after being around in our company for a time, it is proof we are backslidden.

No one had to ask that of Elijah, or Paul, or Peter. It was stamped on every action!

If people have to ask us if we are Christians after being around in our company for a time, it is proof we are backslidden.

The World's Demands of a Christian:

1. The World demands that a Christian should lead a better life than those in the world (non-Christians).

Is this unreasonable?

2. The World demands to know why a Christian wishes to associate with ungodly people who are ready to crucify the Lord Jesus.

Luke 22:54-55:

⁵⁴ Then took they Him, and led him, and brought Him into the high priest's house. And Peter followed afar off.

⁵⁵ And when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them.

3. The World demands a full and open confession from a Christian who is living in sin and out of touch with God.
4. The World demands that all real Christians take their stand with Christ, and for the Gospel of Christ.

Luke 22:55-60: Peter denies 3 times knowing Jesus

⁵⁵ And when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them.

⁵⁶ But a certain maid beheld him as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said, This man [Peter] was also with Him.

⁵⁷ And he denied Him [Jesus], saying, Woman, I know Him not.

⁵⁸ And after a little while another saw him, and said, Thou art also of them. And Peter said, Man, I am not.

⁵⁹ And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this fellow also was with Him: for he is a Galilean.

⁶⁰ And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crowed.

Jonah 1:7-8: On the Boat, Jonah is singled out as the 'cause of this evil'

⁷ And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

⁸ Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

The sailors shook Jonah awake. When he opened his eyes and saw the pale white faces of those whom death threatened, he had forgotten all about them; and being among heathens, he began confessing up as he was faced with his own disobedience and rebellion against God.

Jonah 1:9-10: [Jonah Confessed](#)

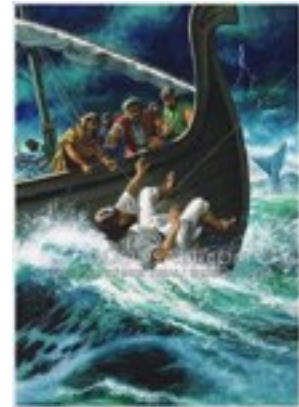
⁹ And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of Heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.

¹⁰ Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him. Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

Jonah knows the only way to make the sea calm. He is transformed by the power of confession and repentance. He is willing now to give his life to the saving of all those who sailed with him.

If my disobedience hurts, my obedience helps. If my sin carries a curse, then my righteousness brings a blessing.

Before, he would not go to preach; now, he is willing to give his life for others - the heathen - to be saved!! **“Cast me forth into the sea!”** Then — the most crucial of all experiences — the heathen men took Jonah at his word.



Jonah 1:11-12: [Jonah is a willing sacrifice](#)

¹¹ Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

¹² And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.

Jonah had the kind of heart God wanted to use to turn the lost to The Lord at Nineveh. His heart was right, although his head was perverted. This is the crowning aspect of real God-called men and women willing to give their lives for a living sacrifice. In losing our lives, we will find them.

[The Cost of a Disciple of Christ](#)

Matthew 10:39-42:

³⁹ He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for My [Jesus'] sake shall find it.

⁴⁰ He that receiveth you receiveth Me, and he that receiveth Me receiveth Him [God the Father] Who sent Me.

⁴¹ He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Matthew 16:25-26:

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it.

26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Mark 8:36:

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

The selfish life always has been - and always will be - a total loss. Only the life that is given for others will find Life Eternal.

Now, let me ask you - are you asleep, spiritually? Is your relationship with Jesus Christ that of indifference to the salvation of the lost? Many are doing practically nothing for the cause of Christ. You are here in body, but not in spirit. Bodily, you warm a pew, but your spirit chills the very atmosphere. Your heart is cold and away from the Presence of Christ. The Sunday school is not your burden. The prayer meeting is not your concern. You are asleep, like the foolish virgins. There will be great peril and inevitable soul loss for all eternity — unless God sends His storm of warning for you to repent.

God still loves you, Jonah; though you have forgotten God, He has not forgotten you. God longs to recover you from the sleep of death.

God sent a great storm upon the sea. It is in mercy that the storm is sent after Jonah. Let us thank God for the storm, whatever it be, that drives us at last to The Lord, to Thee. If any of you ever go to Hell, it will be only after much dealing with your soul by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The raging tempest brought fear-filled crewmen to rubbing elbows with death. They started a prayer meeting — and an investigation, too. This tempest of God's chastisement upon Jonah brought an awakening to both saint and sinner — mostly to the saint.

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If any of you ever go to hell, it will be only after much dealing with your soul by the Lord Jesus Christ.

We hurt others when we are out of touch with God. No one fully realizes how many lives we might drive to hell by being disobedient to the Lord and His Word. How many times has God had to reprove, rebuke and chastise us for the sake of His Own cause.

The heathen voice comes - demanding of the Christian the "why" of his rebellion against God.

Jonah 1:6b: What meanest thou, O sleeper, awake. . .

Jonah, 'How can you sleep when we are perishing? How is it that you are not on your knees? How can you lie complacently by when death is skulking everywhere and souls are endangered of eternal night, without hope?' Brother! Jonah must have really sunk badly to sleep to take soooo much to awaken him.

Nothing shows more clearly the fully inspired Word of God than the Book of Jonah. Hundreds of years before the New Testament was written, here — recorded as a type or foreshadow — is the death and resurrection of Jesus. This is exactly what Jesus relates as His experience in the following:

Matthew 12:38-42: The Sign of Jonah – 3 Days and 3 Nights

³⁸ Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from Thee.

³⁹ But He answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonah:

⁴⁰ For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of Man [Jesus] be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

⁴¹ The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and, behold, a greater than Jonah is here.

⁴² The queen of the south [Queen of Sheba] shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

Luke 11:29-31

²⁹ And when the people were gathered thick together, He began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonah the prophet.

³⁰ For as Jonah was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of Man be to this generation.

31 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

Matthew 16:14: And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the Prophets.

Jesus vindicates Jonah as no other Book of the Bible. Only in the Book of Jonah does God determine to save a whole, wicked Gentile city, working through a Jewish prophet who was rebellious and full of prejudice. Only in Jonah is there a Jewish prophet who is willing to be drowned to save Gentiles. Only in Jonah do we find amazing forgiveness to a whole wicked, but repentant city, thus vindicating the prophet's message.

Jonah 4:2b: [The words of Jonah] For I knew that Thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, . . .

This is the prophet of God who has been made the subject of much ridicule. This is the kind of life [the devil will fight and persecute, as Jesus said in:

Matthew 5:10-12: The Words of Jesus

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for My sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in Heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Very few have ever risen to such heights of consecration for the lives of the lost. (Cf. Moses in Exodus 32:32, Paul in Romans 9:3, Jesus in Matthew 20:28.)

Exodus 32:32: Moses

Yet now, if Thou wilt forgive their sin; and if not, blot me, I pray Thee, out of Thy Book which Thou hast written.

Romans 9:3: Paul

For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

Matthew 20:28: Jesus

Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Whatever we place on God's Altar for salvation of the lost, it can never be lost. See how God began at once to save this prophet's life and make it count mightily for Him. By losing his life, Jonah found it.

First of all, God used this act to save all the people whom Jonah sailed with.

Jonah 1:13-16:

13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them.

14 Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech Thee, O LORD, we beseech Thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for Thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased Thee.

15 So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

16 Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.



Then God prepared a way to save Jonah.

Jonah 1:17: Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Finally, God brought this re-dedicated prophet to Nineveh and put such power in his life and message in his mouth and the Lord turned the whole city to repentance.

The Great Deliverance Jonah 1:17 - and the Second Call Jonah 3:2

The next three days and nights of Jonah's life were spent in God's strange Bible School. Jonah learns that SALVATION IS OF THE LORD. He shall best preach salvation who has felt his own need of it, who has experienced it and is living it.

He shall best preach salvation who has felt his own need of it, who has experienced it and is living it.

While Jonah was riding around in God's submarine jailhouse, he had come to the end of himself.

He had a real prayer meeting. You can pray anywhere and get right — as long as you repent. By faith he remembered the Promise of God to Solomon to look

by faith to the temple in the time of trouble. He had indestructible faith. *"I will look again - again - again- to Thy Holy Temple!!"*

Driven to prayer thru tribulation, never let sin separate you from God. Come at once. Receive forgiveness and restoration. There is nothing like the jaws of death for opening the mouth of prayer; and we will not simply "say" prayers at that time.

God, the Maker and Sustainer of Heaven and earth, is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9b). The Lover of souls cannot endure sin, and definitely planned the redemption of Nineveh.

God has a prejudiced preacher on His hands, and will handle him as only He knows how. Now God commences to break that stubborn will and rebellious heart of Jonah - The great storm - The rebuke from the stricken sailors - The demand of confession. There was placed on Jonah the responsibility of finding a means of escape.

Jonah came clean and re-consecrated himself. Now cold packs are placed by God upon Jonah's head in the belly of the big fish. God prepared the fish especially for him and it immediately did its job. God has many ways of getting us into shape for service. Mopping floors may be one of them.

Jonah's experiences may be well placed in the 10th chapter of Acts, with a fitting climax to Peter's reluctance of carrying the Gospel to the Gentiles. It sets forth God's children becoming lukewarm and losing compassion for lost souls, becoming narrow-minded and bigoted. Noah learned, as we must, by trouble burned into us with the hot iron of affliction — otherwise we wouldn't receive Him.

Jonah must learn, in lessons deeper than head knowledge, that salvation of the lost comes through the substitution of Another. It is salvation, not by natural love — but by Divine Love. It is of the Lord. He is taught that no labors of our own or earthly means of reform like "turning a new leaf" will save our souls.

The tempest-tossed sailors found that strained efforts in rowing to the shore were useless to save their lives. The violent struggle awakened them to the knowledge that they were lost — their efforts to save themselves were futile.

Reform, Sabbath keeping, habit breaking — it's marvelous how far men push reforms and yet get so little peace from tireless effort. The drunkard quits the cup with anguish; the blasphemer vomiting oaths reforms, yet no peace - no joy - no deliverance. **How can a washed corpse bring life?** Fleshly efforts of

sinners must inevitably fail. No flesh is Justified by the works of the Law. All efforts are like filling a bottomless tub with a leaky pail.

Trying to save ourselves is like him who tried to lift himself by his own bootstraps.

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Self efforts — works of the Law to gain salvation — is insulting to Jesus, and casting dirt in His face. It is to deny the testimony of the Word of God.

Many row hard to keep a cast iron creed, striving for life eternal. But there will be many orthodox sinners in Hell, finding Hell is hot and the act of joining a church is 'salvationless'. Salvation is only by the love of God!

Salvation is of the Lord - not of natural temperament. You say some people are saved because they are *naturally religious* and *are inclined to be good*? Unfortunately, I have never seen a *naturally religious saved person* — but let's suppose for a moment there are such people. **God has met their objection!**

Great numbers of those who are saved - are the most unlikely people in the world to have been saved — drunkards, harlots, murderers. God has taken care that it shall never be said that conversion is of man, for Jesus usually blesses those who seem to be the most unlikely to be worth anything but for the gutter they have escaped. He has put His treasure – in earthen vessels – the human body; understanding that the Excellency of the Power may be of God and not of us.

The Remote Castle Salvation through its Obstacles?

Salvation is of the Lord. That is the battering ram against man's pride. The sinner in his natural state is as a man in a remote castle. There is the outer moat, the second moat, and high walls, then afterward the dungeon in which the sinner is trusting as his security of fortifications.

The First Moat

The first mote that must be crossed is the sinner's trusting in good works.

“I am as good as my neighbor. I give forty dollars a year to the church.”

Well, when God comes to work on us, to save us, He sends His army across the first moat. The cry of the Spirit is: **“Salvation is of the Lord.”** And the moat dries up. If it is of the Lord, how can it be of our good works?

The Second Mote

Then, the second entrenchment is approached —

“I will trust in my being baptized. I have been confirmed. I take the sacrament. That shall be my trust!!”

On comes the Spirit's messengers shouting, “**Salvation is of the Lord.**” The second moat is dried up.

The High Wall

Now, come to the next stronghold — the high wall over which the sinner looks and says, “I belong to the First Church of _____.”

So does the steeple! **Salvation is of the Lord.**

Salvation is from God; therefore damnation is of man. If any of you are damned, you will have no one to blame but yourselves.

“I have destroyed myself”, will be the wail of sinners in hell forever.

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Cry out to God for mercy. Lift up your heart in prayer to God. You will find out what Jonah found out — **Salvation is of the Lord.** So easy - no price to pay as penance, no works of righteousness of our own. Jesus paid it all — all to Him I owe. Peace of soul comes only through our precious Lord Jesus Christ.

We are to understand by this that the whole of the work whereby men are saved from their sins and translated into the Kingdom of God's Dear Son. We are made heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ to eternal happiness which is and of Him only. From beginning to end — it is entirely of God.

No human intellect and no created intelligence assisted God in planning the salvation of your lost soul. Ever before the daystar flung its ray across the darkness — when the un-navigated ether had not been fanned by the wing of birds — when the solemnity of silence had never been disturbed by song of angels, then God devised a way whereby He would save mankind whom He loves as His only Son.

God has provided the only means of escape. Man is as unable to believe as he is to obey — he is without power to come to Heaven without Christ. The power must come by His Spirit. The Spirit must quicken us.

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John 3:1-5:

¹ There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

² The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto Him, Rabbi, we know that Thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that Thou doest, except God be with Him.

³ Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.

⁴ Nicodemus saith unto Him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

⁵ Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.

We are bound, hand and foot, and fettered by our transgressions. The Spirit must cut the bonds which bind us - then we will leap to liberty by Faith in Christ.

Our repentance brings us to Christ, and our Faith springs up as we believe and are saved.

Sin separates, but the Blood shed by Jesus is what cleanses from all sin. God must come and break the iron bands that hold us in the clutches of satan.

When a man is made a child of God, he does not have a stock of grace given to him which goes on forever. He gets the amount of grace for each day, and he must have grace for the next, and the next, and the next day until he shall have passed from this veil of tears into the Presence of the One Who loved us and gave Himself for us. As a man does not make himself spiritually alive, neither does he keep himself alive. He must feed on the spiritual food and so preserve his spiritual strength. He can walk in the commandments of the Lord and enjoy rest and peace; but still the inner life is dependent upon the Spirit as much after its existence as for its beginning. Frequently God's children want a month's supply of Heavenly food as the Hebrews received in the desert, but as the manna bred worms, we need fresh 'manna' every day — ***“give us this day our daily bread”***.

Say "Amen", Jonah! You must walk daily with God and die to the flesh, or it will crop up and steal from you your victory.

As Jonah prayed and the Glory fell, that old prophet began to have himself great old a time. He made the fish worry and wonder what in the world he had swallowed! He never had an experience like that before!

God told the fish he had a Holy Ghost filled preacher down there, and that was more than the fish could stand, and more than a lot of church members can stand today. A special delivery was made to the shores of Nineveh. Jonah had a forced landing.

The Word of the Lord came the second time to Jonah as recorded in:

Jonah 3:2: Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

Brother! Jonah didn't need a lot of persuasion to go. There is a special mystery about the source of Jonah's new and amazing power. No record anywhere in the Bible or in Christian history quite parallels the revival which swept over Jonah's spirit, and then wherever he went.

Jonah learned again the love of God, the mercy of God, the power of God to deliver, and that salvation is of the Lord only. How we can preach what is real in our own lives!

Matthew 12:41: The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and, behold, a greater than Jonah is here.

This is the Lord Jesus Christ telling you:

Matthew 11:28: Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

John 14:6: . . . I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.

John 3:18: He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the Name of the Only Begotten Son of God.

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