

Jonah- The Depths Of Grace

Part 4- Counterfeit Grace

Where have we been & where are we now?

1. Why Do We Sin?

Romans 7:15-25a - “For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate...For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing...So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand...Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!”

Jonah 2:8-10- “Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. But I w/ the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!” And the Lord spoke to the fish, & it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.”

2. Sin Problems Are Actually Worship Problems

What Was Jonah Worshipping?

What Do We Worship?

Idols Will Always Let Us Down

3. Obedience Reveals What We *REALLY* Worship

4. We Sacrifice To/For What We *REALLY* Worship

Romans 12:1- “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy & acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

Luke 6:46- “Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' & not do what I tell you?”

5. Worshipping God Is Harder Than We Think

“The terrible thing, the almost impossible thing, is to hand over your whole self-all your wishes & precautions-to Christ. But it is far easier than what we are all trying to do instead. For what we are trying to do is to remain what we call “ourselves,” to keep personal happiness as our great aim in life, & yet at the same time be “good.” We are all trying to let our mind & heart go their own way; centered on money or pleasure

or ambition, & hoping, in spite of this, to behave honestly & chastely & humbly. And that is exactly what Christ warned us you could not do...The Christian way is different: harder, & easier. Christ says "Give me All. I don't want so much of your time & so much of your money & so much of your work: I want You. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half-measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here & a branch there, I want to have the whole tree down. I don't want to drill the tooth, or crown it, or stop it, but to have it out. Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think innocent as well as the ones you think wicked-the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you Myself: my own will shall become yours"

6. It's Impossible To Live Like This W/ A Small View Of God

7. Jonah Sees God As The Hope Of Steadfast Love

8. When We Worship The Wrong Things, We Miss The Best Thing

"If we consider the unblushing promises of reward & the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about w/ drink & sex & ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased." – CS Lewis

9. Salvation Belongs To The Lord