



Am I More Righteous than God? (Jonah 4:1-11)

Jonah (4:1-4)

- ¹But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry.
- ²He prayed to the LORD, “Isn’t this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.
- ³Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”
- ⁴But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

Jonah (4:5-8)

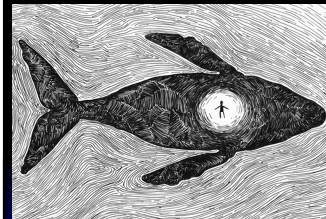
- ⁵Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant^[a] and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

Jonah (4:9-11)

- ⁹But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” “It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”
- ¹⁰But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight.
- ¹¹And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”



Running from God (Jonah 1:1-17)



Prayers in Adversity (Jonah 2:1-10)



One More Chance (拿 3:1-10)



Am I More Righteous than God? (Jonah 4:1-11)

Biblical Teachings

- Not everything in Bible is right
- Not necessarily applying to my situation

Jonah 4:1-11

- My Judgement Better than God's (4:1-4)
- Learning from Life Experience (4:5-8)
- God's Justice and Mercy (4:9-11)

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Limitations of Man

- Knowledge
- Motives

Jonah's Bigger Problem

- Stubborn
- Temperamental

Freedom vs. Eternal life



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Jonah (4:5-6)

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Working under the Blazing sun



Jonah (4:7-8)

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- ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live."

Worth of Freedom?



Jonah 4:1-11

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Jonah (4:9-11)

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Limitations of Man

- Knowledge
- Motives

Man is Imperfect

- Faith Develops Gradually
- Need an Open and Teachable Heart

Abraham Bargained with God (Genesis 18)

- ²³ Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare^{al} the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"
- ²⁶ The LORD said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."
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- ³² Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?"
- He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."

Abraham Offered Isaac Genesis 22

- ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied.
- ¹² "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."
- ¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.



Teachable to God

- More Trust and Obey
- More Devotion

Refuse to Listen?

Delay Spiritual Growth

Others' Blessings Lost

My Testimony

- Thought OT God was too cruel
- Thought bible is not perfect
- Did not read bible seriously
- Selectively follow

Completely Destroy? Too Cruel! Deuteronomy 20:16-18

- ¹⁶ However, in the cities of the nations the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes.
- ¹⁷ Completely destroy^a them—the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—as the LORD your God has commanded you.
- ¹⁸ Otherwise, they will teach you to follow all the detestable things they do in worshiping their gods, and you will sin against the LORD your God.

Surgery via Israelites (Genesis 15:13-16)

- ¹³ Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there.
- ¹⁴ But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.
- ¹⁵ You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."