

YOU CAN'T OUTRUN GOD (Jonah 1)

August 10, 2025

TEXT—Jonah 1

MAIN IDEA—During life in a fallen world we may run from God, but we cannot outrun God.

GOD'S CALL (Jonah 1:1-3). Jonah was a prophet to Israel during the reign of King Jeroboam II (782-753BC). His job was to speak the word of the LORD to whomever God told him to. Yet he ran from this assignment and would have to learn the hard way that he couldn't outrun God.

Nahum 3:1-4

This Is a merciful call for everyone far from God to repent & believe in the LORD alone before justice comes in return for the evil.

Rom. 2:6-8

Mk.1:15; Jn. 10:27-28

James Montgomery Boice (1938-2000)—*When you run away from the LORD you never get to where you are going and you always pay your own fair, but when you go the LORD'S way, you always get to where you are going, and He pays the fair!* Jonah goes to Tarshish but never gets there!

Mt.6:33

GOD'S RULE (Jonah 1:4-16, read 4-6). Since Jonah is running from the LORD (the Ruler over all of creation), his problem becomes everyone else's problem. God sends the wind creating a storm, the ship is in danger of sinking, yet Jonah is so numb in his sin that he's sleeping in the bottom of the ship.

Prov.19:21

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Col.1:16-17

See V7. Casting lots was ancient practice to determine God's will.

Prov. 16:33.

Rom. 8:28

TRUTH—You can run from God, His will will be done but you won't enjoy the journey or you can trust and obey God, His will will be done, and you can enjoy Him because you can't outrun God's rule.

GOD'S LOVE (Jonah 1:17). God demonstrated His great love and incredible patience by preparing a great fish to swallow Jonah. The great fish would take him on an unforgettable 3-day trip that would get him back on course.

Ps.86:15

Ps.103:13-14

Lessons for Living

***Reflect on God's call to trust & follow Jesus. Do what God is calling you to do.**

***Trust in God's rule over all things believing He will work it for His glory & your growth.**

***Remember nothing can separate you from His love so rest in that.**