

GETTING RIGHT WITH GOD (Jonah 2)

August 17, 2025

TEXT - Jonah 2

Matt.12:39-40

MAIN IDEA—No matter how bad your situation or how long you've run from God now is the time to get right with God.

CRY OUT TO GOD IN YOUR DISTRESS (V1-7). Only as Jonah sank in the depths of the ocean with imminent death upon him, he cried out to God and the LORD met him at this lowest of low points.

V2-7 is Jonah describing his experience of sinking in the water before he is swallowed by the great fish.

His cry focused on God (**V2**). **Prov.3:5-6**

His cry was honest (**V2**). **Ps. 30:2-3**

His cry was humble depending on the LORD (**See V2, 6, 7**).

His prayer was desperate (**See V3-6**). **Ps. 73:25-28**

His prayer was grateful (**V2**). **James 4:6,10**

Luke 18:9-14

Heb. 4:16

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REJECT IDOLS AND RECEIVE GOD'S MERCY (Jonah 2:8). Jonah exalted himself above God and robbed himself of enjoying God's presence and mercy. God was still working but Jonah was miserable!

*An idol is anything that we exalt above God or look to for love, joy, peace, happiness, purpose, identity or significance apart from God. Idolatry is worshiping being more devoted to anything other than God.

John Calvin (1509-1564)—*The human heart is a perpetual idol factory.*

1 Jn.5:21

Lam.3:22-23

TRUST IN GOD'S SALVATION (Jonah 2:9). The LORD is the source of salvation and Jonah knew it. His deliverance from death back to life on mission was completely a gift from God and Jonah acknowledged it.

*Jonah's salvation was based on the LORD alone!

Is. 53:6; Eph.2:8-10

HW - read Luke 15 for an example of true repentance and the joy of heaven over one sinner who repents!