

THE GREATNESS OF GOD'S MERCY (Jonah 4)

August 31, 2025

TEXT—Jonah 4

MAIN IDEA—God wants us to know, enjoy, and reflect His mercy to others so that they also might come to know the greatness of His mercy.

MEMORY VERSE—Ps.145:8-9

Mercy is when God, out of lovingkindness, withholds punishment that's deserved and offers forgiveness & relief instead.

JONAH'S ANGRY COMPLAINT (Jonah 4:1-4)—Jonah complains to God in a prayer. He's angry at God because of how merciful God has been towards the Assyrians. He wants the Assyrians to get justice and not mercy and that's why he ran in the first place.

Anger is a human emotion that's a response to injustice or when our expectation of justice isn't met.

Eph.4:26-27, 31-32

Ps. 145:8-10

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q & A

Question 1: What is the chief end of man?

Answer: Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

1 Cor. 10:31; Phil.4:4

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GOD'S MERCIFUL REBUKE (Jonah 4:5-9)—Though Jonah acted like an ungrateful brat with a stinky attitude, Almighty God patiently taught Jonah through a series of actions. These divine actions would reveal the selfish, ungodly and unloving attitude of Jonah's heart.

Gen. 1:1; Col.1:16-17

Where in your life do you resemble Jonah's selfishness, ungodliness, or unloving responses toward those around you?

How do we look like Jonah valuing personal comfort over sharing Christ with others, forgiving or showing God's mercy?

GOD'S MERCIFUL REMINDER (Jonah 4:10-11)—Since Jonah forgot about the mercy He received from God, he failed to enjoy it. God mercifully reminded Jonah that He desired to share that same mercy with the world far beyond Jonah.

How often do you remember His mercy towards you in Christ?

How often do you spend time thanking and praising God for such mercy and wonderful love?

LESSONS TO LIVE BY

- **Daily preach the Gospel to yourself, reminding yourself of how God mercifully treats you in Christ. Luke 6:35-36; Eph. 4:32-5:2**
- **Commit yourself to treating others the same way God treats you in Christ.**
- **Keep praying for your Nineveh and sharing Christ with your Nineveh (Tucson and the world).**