12.17.23 AM | Trent Thrasher

Introduction

- 1. God demands repentance for all people (Acts 17:30-31; 2 Pt. 3:9)
 - a. John preached repentance (Mt. 3:1-2)
 - b. Jesus preached repentance (Mt. 4:17)
 - c. The apostles preached repentance (Mk. 6:12)
- 2. Great lessons on repentance are learned from the book of Jonah
 - a. A disobedient Jonah
 - b. A repentant Jonah
 - c. A repentant city

A Disobedient Jonah

- 1. Jonah was required by God to cry (preach <u>Jon. 3:2</u>) to the Assyrian capital city of Nineveh because of their wickedness (<u>Jon. 1:1-2</u>)
 - a. Instead of going Northeast to Nineveh, Jonah fled Southwest to Joppa to go far west to the port city of Tarshish (<u>Jon. 1:3</u>)
- 2. God sent a great storm on the Mediterranean Sea (Jon. 1:4)
 - a. Fear struck the mariners, but not Jonah (Jon. 1:5)
 - b. Jonah was questioned, and his people revealed (Jon. 1:6-9)
 - c. More fear followed (Jon. 1:10)
 - d. A solution to the storm was provided by Jonah (Jon. 1:11-12)
 - e. There was initial reluctance to the solution by the mariners, but ultimately, they complied (<u>Jon. 1:13-15</u>)
 - f. The result was great reverence for the LORD, and an aquatic attitude adjustment for Jonah (<u>Jon. 1:16-17</u>)

A Repentant Jonah

- Jonah offers a prayer to the God of Heaven indicating a change of mind (<u>Jon.</u> 2:1-9)
 - a. This is what repentance is: a change of mind that leads to a change of life
- 2. God accepted this change and had the fish throw Jonah up onto dry land (Jon. 2:10)

A Repentant City

- 1. God spoke to Jonah the second time with the same message as before (<u>Jon.</u> 3:1-2)
 - a. This time Jonah went and preached showing his repentance (Jon. 3:3-4)
- 2. The message was well received by the people of Nineveh and they repented (Jon. 3:5-9)
 - a. Repentance was seen by proclaiming a fast and putting on sackcloth (<u>Jon.</u> 3:5)
 - b. Repentance was seen in the king of Nineveh covering himself with sackcloth and sitting in ashes (<u>Jon. 3:6</u>)
 - c. Repentance was seen in the decree of the king and his nobles (Jon. 3:7-9)
- 3. God saw their works of repentance and spared the city (Jon. 3:10)
 - a. This is what God wants to do with every single sinner! (Mt. 9:13)

Conclusion

- 1. Tragically, the end of the book of Jonah shows an angry Jonah at Nineveh's repentance and God's mercy (<u>Jon. 4:1-3</u>)
 - a. God asks Jonah a powerful question (Jon. 4:4)
 - b. God teaches Jonah a powerful lesson (Jon. 4:5-11)
- 2. God demands repentance for all people (Acts 17:30-31; 2 Pt. 3:9)
 - a. We do not want to be like the Jonah of <u>Jonah 4</u> nor the people of Nineveh as seen in the book of Nahum
 - b. Let us be like the Jonah of <u>Jonah 2</u> and the people of Nineveh in <u>Jonah 3</u>
- 3. One greater than Jonah has come, will we change our minds to conform our lives with His will (Mt. 12:41)?