



L I V I N G
W E L L

Jonah 4:4: A 3-D Look at Anger

Jonah Week 22

LWC 4/15/18

1. Review:
2. In Jonah 4:4 God asks if Jonah does well to be angry. Let's answer the question by studying the passage.

A. Jonah's Anger:

- (1) Arose from displeasure (Jonah 4:1)

Displeasure is personal depending on what you care about. (Col 3:1, Rom 8:4-6, etc.)

God is displeased at:

Disobedience to his word (Gen 38:10), Complaining (Num 11:1-10), Adultery and Murder (2 Sa 11:27), Lack of social judgment (Isa 59:15), Refusal to hear and heed God's instruction to turn from evil (Zech 1:2-4). Turning away children and their families (Mark 10:14), etc....

- (2) Revealed a difference between Jonah and God (v. 2) God is slow to anger, etc. and that made Jonah angry. Not good!

Difference in Character. (Jonah 4:2, Ps 103:8, Prov 14:17, Tit 1:7, Ps Prov 15:18)

Difference in Priority. (Jonah 4:2, Mark 8:33, Prov 14:12)

Study the prodigal son in Lu. 15 and compare the Father (caring) and elder son (angry).

- (3) Led to drama and despair (v. 3)

Note that God ignores this and deals with issue of anger.

Application: Never make decisions or declarations while dramatic from anger. Sinning because you are angry is still sinning (Eph 4:26). You can say, "I take it back" later, but you cannot take it back. (Eccl 5:6). Instead, learn to say nothing (Ja. 1:20), or say, "I am angry."

Application/Invitation:

I think most of you are with me so far, but the Spirit said Pastors and Teachers, so I cannot, just teach it, I need to preach it. So, in the time remaining we need to move from Explanation and Illustration of this passage into Application and Invitation. So perk up and pray because we need to move on from Jonah's drama and examine our own lives. Because if Jonah the prophet of God, used mightily of God, can end up angry, frustrated, isolated, and despairing of life itself so can you and I. So with another look at the passage let's see what God has for us:

Jon 4:4 Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry? PP with diagram of sentence. Doest thy well?

Small Group Questions:

1. Did Jonah do well to be angry? Explain.
2. Someone tells you, "I cannot just 'not be angry', as if I can just turn off my emotions." How would you explain Col 3:8 to them?
3. What things make lost people angry, but should not make saved people angry?
4. What things should make saved people angry, but not lost people?