

"FROM ONE PIT TO ANOTHER"

Lesson for February 19, 2023
(Jonah chapter 4:1-5)

"I TOLD YOU SO"

I. "I'm So Mad!!!!!" (The Second Pit)

Old Testament

Jonah 4:1
Jonah 3:10
Proverbs 24:17
Proverbs 26:27
Jonah 4:2
Psalms 86:15
Psalms 145:8
Nahum 1:3

New Testament

St. Matthew 7:12
II Peter 3:9

II. "I'd Rather Be Dead"

Jonah 4:3-5

St. Luke 23:24
I Peter 2:20-23
St. Matthew 26:53-54
St. Luke 9:51-56
Acts 8:5-8
Philippians 2:5

Word Definitions

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| 1) | Exceeding: | To go beyond; to surpass; to overdo; to go far beyond an acceptable limit. |
| 2) | Exceedingly: | The extreme degree of exceeding. |
| 3) | Displeased: | To be offended; to be in discomfort; unhappy; when the prefix "dis" is placed before a word, it |

means the opposite of the word. Jonah was "not pleased"....he was DISpleased!

- 4) Very: To a high degree; exceedingly.
- 5) Angry: Inflamed; full of wrath.

Questions for your Consideration

1. Why did Jonah wait for the destruction of the Ninevites?
2. What do you think of Jonah wanting to die rather than seeing God spare the people?
3. Can you sympathize with Jonah - even in his desire to see his enemies destroyed?
4. Talk about "unwilling obedience" and how God worked in the story in spite of Jonah's "unwilling obedience." (In chapter 1, we saw Jonah's "willing disobedience").
5. Discuss "Unwilling Obedience" and your experience with being obedient even though you were unwilling to do so.
6. Have you ever been so angry in a particular situation that you wanted to take vengeance on someone or prayed for God to "get them" for you?
7. Why do you want to see your enemy suffer? and what do you feel when you see your enemy suffer?
8. Are you any different than Jonah? Talk about what may be similarities in your situation and Jonah's situation.
9. Can "hurt" ever be justified? (justify: too prove that you have a reason to hold onto anger and hurt.)

SisStar Reflections

1. The Law in the Old Testament was "an eye for an eye" which is called the Law of "Lex Talionis." But under the New Testament, the law is the Law of Love - which includes Restoration, Forgiveness, Mercy and Kindness.
2. God is Gracious, Merciful, Forgiving and Longsuffering to us - and that same character should be reflected in His Daughters.
3. You cannot see the narrative of your life apart from God.
4. If you know God, you know His Character...and because you know God's Character, you know that God wants even your worst enemy to be saved.
5. You should be as sure of God's Character as Jonah was. You can be sure that God will never act apart from His Character.
6. Just as you are grateful for God's Grace and Mercy, be grateful when you see God's Grace and Mercy extended to others.
7. God's Love is inexhaustible and can never end; God's Love is reliable, and can always be depended upon; God's Love is indestructible, and can never be destroyed. You are loved with this Everlasting Love. How can you not give to others what you have received!!!

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

"That ye may be the daughters of your Father which is in heaven; for he maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men would do to you, do ye even so to them."

"Love worketh no ill to her neighbour; therefore LOVE is the fulfilling of the Law."