

More Than a Fish Tale / The Vomit Prayer

Jonah 2 / April 13, 2025

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Special sermon notes

- Various views of this curious and unique book
- J.K. preaching more of the majority opinion: encouragement to pray during suffering
- While I think Jonah is a satire, I completely believe Jonah is historical

Satire - Use of irony or ridicule to criticize folly and shortcomings with intent to inspire reform

- Pagans more interested and fearful of God than Jonah is
- Beasts being covered with sackcloth and calling out mightily to God
- A preacher, Jonah, being exceedingly angry about the conversion of a whole city
- Jonah being exceedingly glad about the plant
- The lengthy prayer of Jonah compared with his deafening silence at the end of the book.

The Main Point: We can be churchy, we can memorize and pray Psalms, we can cry “Hosanna” on this Palm Sunday, but if we give God the silent treatment when He asks us whether He should pity our enemies, something is ill.

The Vomit Prayer

- Jonah doesn't seek forgiveness
- Jonah isn't concerned about the sailors who threw him overboard
- Jonah plays the victim
- Jonah makes boasts he does not keep (or even understand??)

Give God our hearts instead of posing with a religious sounding prayer