



## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN GOD GIVES US ANOTHER CHANCE? JONAH — CHAPTER 3

*<sup>1</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: <sup>2</sup>"Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you."*

*<sup>3</sup>Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown."<sup>5</sup>The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.*

*<sup>6</sup>When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. <sup>7</sup>This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink."<sup>8</sup>But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. <sup>9</sup>Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish."*

*<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened. **JONAH 3:1-10***

# What to Do WHEN You Get a SECOND CHANCE . . .

## JONAH . . .

- Don't **DELAY**

*"Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; **it took three days** to go through it." (v. 3)*

## THE NINEVITES . . .

- Hear **GOD** (even when it's hard)

*"Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, 'Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.' The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth." (vv. 4-5)*

Their repentance was a miracle of God's grace and **GOOD LISTENING** — Look at how poorly Jonah preached — He was . . .

- Bitter in motive
- Bleak in tone
- Barren in use of illustrations
- Brief in delivery

- Look at your **LIFE**

*"The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, **from the greatest to the least**, put on sackcloth." (v. 5)*

"You can **safely assume** you've created God in your own image when it turns out that God hates all the same people you do." - **ANNE LAMOTT**

- Be an **EXAMPLE**

*"When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, **he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes**, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh: 'By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth...' (vv. 6-8)*

Sackcloth and ashes are about **CONFESSION**

Fasting is about **DEPENDENCE**

- Both are an outward demonstration of inward transformation

## FINAL THOUGHT

- Anticipate **GRACE**

*"When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, **he relented** and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened." (v. 10)*