

## *The Prodigal Prophet Preaches (Jonah 3:3-9)*

- I. **Introduction**
  - A. A hypothetical illustration – revival in Kabul, Afghanistan
  - B. A brief recap of Jonah’s calling and life – super-abundant grace!
  - C. Reading the text and setting the course for the message
  
- II. **The Prodigal Prophet Preaches (Jonah 3:2-4)**
  - A. The prodigal prophet returns to his calling to preach (2:2)
    1. The message (in Greek *kerygma*)
    2. Three days of preaching through the city (2:3-4)
  - B. *Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown!* A **simple** message
    1. The Gospel is our simple message
      - a. once-delivered, unto salvation (Jude 3, Ro 1:17)
      - b. the content of the Gospel *kerygma* (1 Co 15:3-5)
      - c. the Gospel must be received (1 Co 15:1-2)
      - d. a call to repentance and faith (Mk 1:14-15, Acts 2:38/16:31, Acts 10:38/11:18, John 3:16/2 Pet 3:9, John 3:36, 5:24-25, 6:40, 6:47, 11:25-26, Mk 16:16, Rom 10:9-10 and 1 Jn 5:11-13/ Lk 15:10, Acts 17:30)
    2. Simply preach the Gospel in simplicity (1 Co 2:1-5)
      - a. This does not mean an a-doctrinal message
      - b. preach Christ crucified and risen (1 Co 1:23)
  - C. *Forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown!* An **offensive** message
    1. People must know what they are saved from
      - a. the use of the law to point out sin and drive to Christ
      - b. the fear of the Lord motivates us to preach (2 Cor 5:11)
      - c. the gospel is a foolish message (1 Cor 1:21)
  - D. *Forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown!* A **hopeful** message?
    1. How did the people of Nineveh have any hope?
      - a. The 40 day time period suggests time for God to reconsider
      - b. Is there any hope in the word “*overthrown*.” (Dt 23:5)
      - c. Jonah himself brought them hope from his own brokenness
    2. Preach the Gospel out of love (Phil 1:15-17)
  - E. *Forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown!* An **urgent** message
    1. Jonah preached with conviction as a man who had been there
    2. We need a return to preaching with Biblical passion (1 Cor 2:4)
      - a. this was the secret to revival in the early church (Acts 4:31)
      - b. Please pray for unction in our preaching (2Th 3:1, Eph 6:19)
  
- III. **Preaching leads to Prodigal Repentance (Jonah 3:5-9)**
  - A. Unbelievable repentance!
  - B. Similar report of prodigal repentance from Northern Ireland
  - C. This is the kind of revival we need!
  - D. Therefore Go! (Mt 28:19-20)