

“AND AS FOR ME,...” Part 2: The Nations

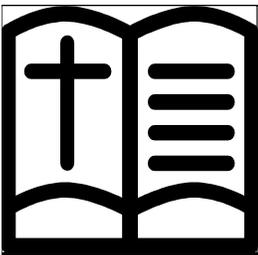
JONAH 1:1-4:11

I. GOD AND HIS PROPHET INTERACT

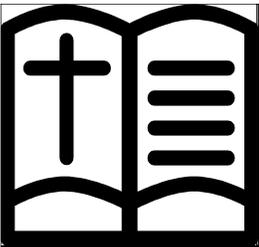
- A. God's command
- B. The prophet's response
- C. God's reboot and the prophet's response
- D. Back on track with a potent message: the prophet's message is not His own but is assisted by the power of God
- E. God's compassion at work; not just a theory or concept
- F. The prophet's great displeasure and anger; “disappointed” that God keeps His Word in line with His character Exodus 34:6,7; Jonah 4:1-4

II. GOD AND THE NATIONS

- A. No nations until after the Flood and in response to the Tower of Babel What did the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil change in us?
- B. Nations as used in the Scriptures usually refers to those families that grew to tribes that grew to nations by the work of God in them.
 - 1. A distinct family line with a distinct language
 - 2. A designated territory in which to carry out the command given through Noah to all people
 - 3. A distinct guardian and mentor from the sons of God, the elohim of the divine counsel who was to guide those people to seek the Lord; to teach them good and evil; to judge among them



4. *Most of the time it is distinct from Israel. Though Israel is a nation it is in a different relationship with God and is not included in the term*
- C. *God’s character in Ex 34:6-7 in how he relates to the nations*
1. *Sovereign: Divine providence in their living; grants them self-governance and holds them responsible for their actions; uses them to judge other nations for their sinfulness; judges them for the manner it is carried out*
 2. *Compassionate: As shown here at Nineveh He is compassionate with even the wicked when in repentance; Abraham’s prayer for Sodom*
 3. *Gracious: Common grace is shown by Him to every nation*
 4. *Slow to anger: God shows His longsuffering by the amount of time it takes Him to be angry enough to act in anger*
 5. *Covenant loyalty and truth: With those for whom He has a covenant He will not move from His words to them and He is faithful to keep it with them. He wastes no words with His covenant*
 6. *Forgiving, just, but unrelenting: He forgives the contrite but will in no way clear the unrepentant (guilty)*
- D. *God is going to bring all nations into judgment at that final day and Israel will be the last standing*



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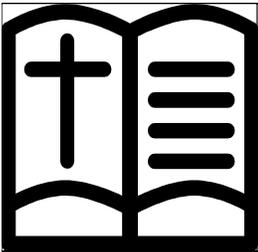
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