

PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE

"BEING A RESTORED HUMAN"



"AND AS FOR ME,..." Part 4: Running from God JONAH 1:1-17

- I. SAVED FOR A PURPOSE IN KNOWING GOD
 - A. Saved from God's wrath
 - B. Saved by grace through faith: <u>declared</u> not earned justification
 - C. Saved to glorify God as His people
 - D. Eternal life is about a relationship with God
- II. WHEN YOU THINK YOU KNOW IT ALL WELL ENOUGH
 - A. Saturation of <u>information</u> does not mean knowing
 - B. Acquaintance does not mean intimacy
 - C. Familiarity does not mean agreement
 - D. Knowing enough to be cocky
 - E. Knowing enough to be greater than God

III. WHAT IS IT TO RUN FROM GOD AND HIS WILL?

- A. Change appearance, seek a new crowd and hide hoping He can't find you; take the loss and start a new life Adam and Eve
- B. Get mad at God and take it out on His people, get rid of the evidence, justify yourself; start a new happily estranged life; be your own boss <u>Cain</u>
- C. Having devalued the promise of God, continue a life of doing as you wish to do. Then from your alleged privileged status, expect God's blessing to be automatically yours; clueless <u>Esau</u>



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- D. Being drawn by the false security, wealth and celebrity of the world's limelight Demas
- E. Run the other way from God's command; become unavailable for ministry <u>Jonah</u>

IV. WHY DO PEOPLE RUN FROM GOD OR HIS WILL?

- A. Guilt and shame Adam and Eve Outcome: doom your family for ageless generations
- B. Belief in your own divine status; autonomy Outcome: family has to live with the cursed status
- C. Vanity and profanity Outcome: Regret and envy; family dysfunction for generations
- D. Pride and short-sightedness Outcome: Loss of reward both here and in the world to come; loss of the blessing of God
- E. Arrogance and prejudice
 - 1. You know what God is like
 - 2. But you disagree with what He wants to do
 - 3. Your knowledge has led you to believe you are somewhat equal with God in determining outcomes
 - 4. With a desire to outsmart God or modify His plan to suit what you believe should be done, you set out to take actions you believe would more befit the situation as you see it
 - 5. Outcome: The gracious God still uses the reluctant you to accomplish His will at great personal cost to you. If your heart is still hard, God's will is done and you are left on a hill side crying over a dead plant.

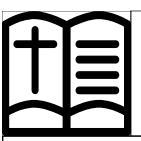
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