

“A New Day!”
Jonah 1:14-16

Introduction:

1. Have You Ever Had Such A Rough Day:
 - That You Couldn't Wait To Go To Bed & Go To Sleep:
 - Just So You Could Have A Fresh Start In The Morning?
 - Like One Of Those Great Big Red Reset Buttons!
 - To Reset & Start Over!
 - And Have A New Day! And A Better Day!
 - This Morning:
 - As We Continue Our Study Through The Book Of Jonah:
 - We Will See A “New Day” Come Into The Lives Of Those Who Were Impacted The Most By Jonah And His Sin!
 - A “New Day” For The Sailors On His Ship!
2. Remember What We Have Seen So Far:
 - In The First Chapter Of Jonah?
 - Please Turn There With Me This Morning!
 - Jonah 1 - What Have We Seen?
 - We Have Seen God In Hot Pursuit!
 - First - God Pursued Jonah!
 - Because He Was A Disobedient Prophet:
 - Who Ran Away From God And His Mission!
 - So God Sent A Great Wind & A Great Storm:
 - To Get His Attention!
 - And He Did!
 - In 1:9 - Jonah Admits:
 - “I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land!”
 - And Jonah Was Even Willing To:
 - Lose His Life In Order To Save The Rest Of The Sailors On That Ship Heading To Tarshish!
 - So Then Next - God Pursued Those Sailors!
 - Because They Needed Him As Well!
 - They Needed God's Help In The Storm!
 - They Needed God's Help From Their Sin!
 - So God Used The Same Wind & The Same Storm:
 - To Get Their Attention!
 - And To Wake Them Up As Well!
 - And In Our Text For This Morning, We See That He Did!
 - For In 1:14-16 - We Read:
 - As The Storm Was Becoming Even More Furious:
 - And The Sailors Had Tried Everything They Knew To Overcome The Storm:
 - “Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased thee. / So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging. / Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows!”
 - 3. In The Middle Of The Mediterranean Sea:
 - There Was A Revival On That Ship!
 - A Prophet Was Being Restored To His Service!
 - And Sailors Were Being Rescued From Their Sin!
 - All Because God, In His Grace, Pursued Them:
 - And Would Not Let Them Go!
 - It Was A New Day In The Life Of Those Sailors!
 - A New Day - Not In Terms Of Time!
 - But A New Day - In Terms Of Eternity!
 - We Find Their Lives Reflecting The Truth:
 - Found In 2 Corinthians 5:17 - “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new!”
 - When They Finally Listened To:

- Jonah's Instructions, Found In 1:12 - To: "Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you!"

- They Were Waking Up To God!

- And It Was A New Day For Them!

4. And When You Are Awakened By God:

- It Will Be A New Day For You As Well!

- And In These Verses, We Will See What It Looks Like:

- When You Have Been Awakened By God!

* There Will Be:

1. ***A New Kind Of Prayer!***

- When You Are Awakened By God!

- Just Like The Sailors! A New Kind Of Prayer!

- How Did The Sailors Pray Before?

- Look At 1:4-5 - "But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken. / Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god!"

- They Were Idolaters & Prayed To Every God They Could Think Of To Help Them!

- But They Received No Answer From Those Gods! Because They Were Idols!

- But When God Got Their Attention Through The Storm:

- There Was A New Kind Of Prayer:

- In Their Mouths!

- See This New Kind Of Prayer In 1:14a:

- "Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee!"

- This Was:

- An Effectual Prayer!

- Instead Of Crying: "Every Man Unto His God!"

- Now: "They Cried Unto The LORD!"

- The God Of Jonah - Who Described Him As - "The God Of Heaven, Which Hath Made The Sea And The Dry Land!" (1:9)

- Their New Prayers Were Effectual:

- Because They Were True Prayers!

- They Were True Prayers:

- Because They Were Prayed To The One True God!

- The Only God Who Could Hear Them & Answer Them & Help Them!

- Jonah May Have Been The ***Reason*** For The Storm:

- But Now They Knew Who Was The ***Cause*** Of The Storm!

- The Lord Jehovah!

- And Now They Prayed To Him!

- It Was A New Kind Of Prayer For Them!

- It Was An Effectual Prayer! It Was Also:

- An Earnest Prayer!

- Listen To How They Prayed!

- "We Beseech Thee, O Lord, We Beseech Thee!"

- The Sailors Were Feeling Crushed!

- And Hemmed In On Every Side!

- The Ship Must Have Felt Smaller & Smaller!

- And They Were Overwhelmed!

- They Were At Their Wits End!

- And So They Poured Out Their Hearts To The Lord!

- And They "Cried" Out To Him!

- Earnestly! Passionately!

- They Prayed The Kind Of Prayer We Read About In:

- Psalms 61:2 - "From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I!"

- And This Was A New Kind Of Prayer For Them!

- It Was An Earnest Prayer!

- And This Is The Kind Of Prayer:

- That Comes From A Renewed & An Awakened Heart!
- Is This The Kind Of Prayer You Pray?
 - Is It Effectual – Because You Know The One True God?
 - Is It Earnest – Because You Need The One True God?
- This Is The New Kind Of Prayer We Need:
 - Just As Those Sailors Did!

* There Will Also Be:

2. *A New Kind Of Pursuit!*

- When You Are Awakened By God!
 - Just Like Those Sailors! A New Kind Of Pursuit!
 - What Did The Sailors Pursue Before?
 - Their Own Security & Preservation!
 - After They Found Out That Jonah Was The Reason For Their Danger, They Asked Him In 1:11 - “What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us?”
 - They Just Wanted To Survive!
 - But When God Got Their Attention Through The Storm:
 - There Was A New Kind Of Pursuit:
 - See This In Their Prayer In:
 - 1:14 - “We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased thee!”
 - After They Realized That Their Only Choice Was To Follow Jonah’s Instructions To Throw Him Overboard - They Pursued:
- The Principles Of God!
 - And The Principle Of His Righteousness!
 - The Sailors Had A Major Dilemma!
 - If They Kept Jonah In The Ship - They Would Die From The Storm - Guilty Of Disobeying God’s Will!
 - But If They Threw Jonah From The Ship - They Could Face The Judgment Of God Themselves - By Being Guilty Of An Act Which Normally Would Be Considered Murder!
 - They Weren’t Just Concerned About Their Lives Now!
 - They Were Concerned About Their Souls!
 - And The Life & Soul Of Jonah!
 - And That Was A Good Thing!
 - In Mark 8:37, Jesus Himself Asked - “What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”
 - And So They Came To The Lord!
 - To Receive His Permission & To Receive His Clearing!
 - They Pursued After The Principle Of God’s Righteousness!
 - Which Is The Complete Opposite Of A Time In The Life Of Jesus - At His Trial Before Pontius Pilate!
 - In Matthew 27:24 - “When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it! / Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children!”
 - The Sailors Did Not Want To Shed Innocent Blood!
 - And So They Sought Permission & Clearing From God!
 - But Pilate & The People Did Not Care About Shedding The Blood Of The Most Innocent One – The Lord Jesus!
 - And They Thought They Could Clear Themselves!
 - But Only The Sailors Would Be Cleared By God!
 - Because They Were Also Pursuing:
- The Purpose Of God!
 - And The Purpose Of His Will!
 - They Now Believed That The Lord Was The True God!
 - And Was In Complete Control!
 - They Said To The Lord In 1:14:
 - “For Thou, O LORD, Hast Done As It Pleaseth Thee!”
 - They Now Believed That:
 - The Lord Was The Creator!
 - The Lord Was The Judge!

- And The Lord Alone Could Be Their Savior!
- And Nothing Happened By Chance!
 - Everything Was According To The Will & Pleasure Of God!
- And They Were Ready To Be The “Agents Of Divine Justice” And Fulfill God’s Will With Their Hands!
- And This Is The Kind Of Pursuit:
 - That Comes From A Renewed & An Awakened Heart!
 - Is This The Kind Of Pursuit You Have?
 - A Pursuit After God?
 - And His Righteousness?
 - And His Will?
 - Psalm 42:1-2 - “As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. / My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?”
 - This Is The New Kind Of Pursuit We Need:
 - Just As Those Sailors Did!

* There Will Also Be:

3. *A New Kind Of Peace!*

- When You Are Awakened By God!
 - Just Like Those Sailors! A New Kind Of Peace!
 - During The Storm, The Sailors:
 - Had No Peace!
 - No Peace On The Ship!
 - No Peace In Their Hearts!
 - They Just Wanted It All To Stop!
 - They Just Wanted The Sea To Be “Calm” Unto Them Once Again, So They Could Return To Their Cruise & To Their Business!
 - But When God Got Their Attention Through The Storm:
 - There Was A New Kind Of Peace:
 - 1:15 - “So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging!”
 - They Experienced A:
 - Peace Through Trust!
 - They Finally Believed That Jonah’s Solution:
 - Was The Only Way For Them To Be Saved From The Storm!
 - And They Obeyed!
 - “They Took Up Jonah, And Cast Him Forth Into The Sea!”
 - They Followed Jonah’s Instructions Carefully & Completely!
 - They Committed Themselves Fully To God’s Plan!
 - And Trusted That Jonah’s Death Would Be God’s Way Of Saving Them From The Storm!
 - And As Soon As They Threw Jonah Overboard:
 - “The Sea Ceased From Her Raging!”
 - It Was As If The Sea Itself Had Been Angry & Mad!
 - But Now It Was Satisfied At The Sacrifice Of Jonah! And It Was Calm!
 - Then Sailors Had A:
 - Peace That Teaches!
 - The Immediate Peace They Had From This Storm:
 - Taught Them More About The One True God!
 - Taught Them: About His Power To Bring Peace!
 - It Was Immediate! God Was Truly In Control!
 - Teaches Us: About The Person Who Brings Peace!
 - Reminds Us Of Another Time In Jesus’ Life!
- Mark 4:35-41 - “And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. / 36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. / 37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. / 38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? / 39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. / 40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? / 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

- And This Is The Kind Of Peace:
 - That Comes To A Renewed & An Awakened Heart!
 - This Is What Happens:
 - When A Sinner “Takes Hold” Upon The Lord Jesus Christ – Who Is Greater Than Jonah!
 - The Death Of Jesus Is The Sacrifice:
 - That Atones & Satisfies The Anger & Wrath Of God Toward Your Sin!
 - And Then - Jesus Can Bring About A Great Calm!
 - As He Speaks - “Peace, Be Still!”
 - Is This The Kind Of Peace You Have?
 - A Peace That Comes From Your Trust In The Lord?
 - A Peace That Teaches You More About The Lord?
 - Remember Isaiah 26:3 - “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee!”
 - Is Your Mind Stayed On The Lord Jesus?
 - The Sailors Had The Lord On Their Mind!
 - In These 3 Verses, The Personal Name Of God Is Found 5 Times! The LORD - Jehovah!
 - This Is The New Kind Of Peace We Need!
 - Just As They Sailors Had!

* There Will Also Be:

4. A New Kind Of Passion!

- When You Are Awakened By God!
 - Just Like Those Sailors! A New Kind Of Passion!
 - And This Passion Was Driven By:
 - A New Fear! Remember:
 - In 1:10 - Their Fear Was Then **OF** God!
 - They Were Afraid Of What God Could Do To Them!
 - And This Kind Of Fear Can Result In Salvation, Which It Seems To Have Done In Their Lives!
 - In 1:16 - Their Fear Was Now **IN** God!
 - “Then The Men Feared The LORD Exceedingly!”
 - They Now Feared Because Of What God Did For Them!
 - And This Kind Of Fear Results From Salvation!
 - Proverbs 14:27 - “The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life!”
 - This Kind Of Fear Will Drive A New Kind Of Passion:
 - Like We See In These Sailors Lives!
 - A Passion:
- To Worship The Lord!
 - 1:16 - “Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD!”
 - This Was Real Worship!
 - They Obviously Didn’t Throw Everything Overboard!
 - They Had Some Animals They Could Use For A Sacrifice!
 - So They Offered The Lord A Sacrifice:
 - Not To Appease God & His Wrath!
 - The Storm Was Already Over!
 - But To Thank God & To Worship Him!
 - When God Awakens & Renews Your Heart:
 - You Too Will Have A Passion To Worship!
 - And To Thank & To Praise Him!
 - But There Was Also A Passion:
- To Walk With The Lord!
 - 1:16 Further Tells Us That These Sailors “Made Vows!”
 - This Was A New Promise & Commitment To The Lord – The One True God – And Their Savior!
 - They Now Had A Desire To:
 - Know The Lord More!
 - And Serve Him & Please Him!
 - So They “Made Vows” To Him!
 - Further Evidence Of God Working In Their Heart!

- When God Awakens & Renews Your Heart:
 - You Too Will Have A Passion To Walk With God!
 - To Know Him! Serve Him! Please Him!
- But I Believe There Was Another Passion:
- To Witness For The Lord!
 - How Would Jonah Know What Was Going On In That Ship:
 - While He Was Sinking Deep Into The Depths Of The Sea?
 - Of Course - It Could Have Been Directly Revealed To Him By God:
 - But It Also Could Have Been Directly Shared By These Sailors!
 - And I Think This Was Even More Likely!
 - They Would Have Spread The News Of God's Grace:
 - And Salvation To Them All Over The World!
 - And Perhaps They Eventually Heard About:
 - Jonah's Own Rescue! Maybe Even Met Him Once Again To Tell Him Their Story!
 - As Psalm 107:31 Says - "Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"
 - I Believe This Is What Those Sailors Did!
- Because This Is The Kind Of Passion:
 - That Comes With A Renewed & An Awakened Heart!
 - Is This The Kind Of Passion You Have?
 - To Worship The Lord?
 - To Walk With The Lord?
 - To Witness For The Lord?

Conclusion:

1. This Was A New Day For Those Sailors On That Ship!
 - Because They Had Been Awakened To Life:
 - Through The Only One Who Can Bring True Peace!
 - Has This New Day Dawned In Your Life?
2. And If It Has:
 - Do You Need To Be Re-Awakened?
 - Renewed? And Revived?
 - Look Once Again To The God Who Saved The Sailors!
 - And Saved You!
 - Take Hold Upon The Lord Jesus!
 - Remember Him! Trust Him! Look To Him!
 - Hebrews 12:2 - "Looking Unto Jesus The Author And Finisher Of Our Faith!"
 - And A New Day Can Dawn In Your Heart As Well!
 - Your Prayers Can Be Revived!
 - They Can Be Effectual & Earnest Once Again!
 - Your Pursuit Can Be Revived!
 - You Can Pursue After God & His Righteousness & His Will Once Again!
 - Your Peace Can Be Revived!
 - "The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, [that can] keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus!" (Philippians 4:7)
 - Your Passion Can Be Revived!
 - To Worship The Lord!
 - To Walk With The Lord!
 - To Witness For The Lord!
3. May The Lord Awaken Us Today In This Church!
 - Just As He Did To Those Sailors On That Boat!

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