



Rehoboth Reformed Church

Thoroughly Equipped Radio Program Outline

September 1, 2013

Title: What Can We Learn From The Book of Jonah?

Main Point. The Apostle Paul wrote that "*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*" (2 Tim 3:16), this includes the book of Jonah. We understand that it was intended to teach God's people (Israel) that He is a merciful and compassionate God, one who is concerned with all creation. It called them (and us) to evaluate our view of those different from us in the light of Scripture. It also demonstrated the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ concerning how to handle those who "*Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you*" (Luke 6:27-28).

Bible Study Methods: While reading any passage of Scripture, we must keep in mind the teaching of the rest of Scripture (i.e. the various contexts). One of these contexts is what God has revealed about himself (the theological context) and what God wants us to do.

I. What does the main theme ("*Salvation is of the Lord*") have to do with me?

II. What does mercy and compassion have to do with race relations?

III. What does mercy and compassion have to do with inter-personal relations?

Conclusion: There are many other wonderful truths that we can learn from the book of Jonah. It is worthwhile to return to this portion of Scripture and read it with an open and inquiring heart. May the Lord bless you as you pursue Him and the truth He delights to reveal.

Preparations for next Sunday's program: We will focus on the question of justice in relations to the mercy of God toward the wicked. Approx. 100 years after Jonah, another prophet was raised up by God to prophesy God's judgment and the total destruction of the great city of Nineveh. Please read the book of Nahum and ask yourself how does this book and its message relate to the message of Jonah?

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