

The Minor Prophets “The Twelve”

Hosea	Nahum
Joel	Habakkuk
Amos	Zephaniah
Obadiah	Haggai
Jonah	Zechariah
Micah	Malachi

Prophetic Ministry: 800 – 430 B.C.

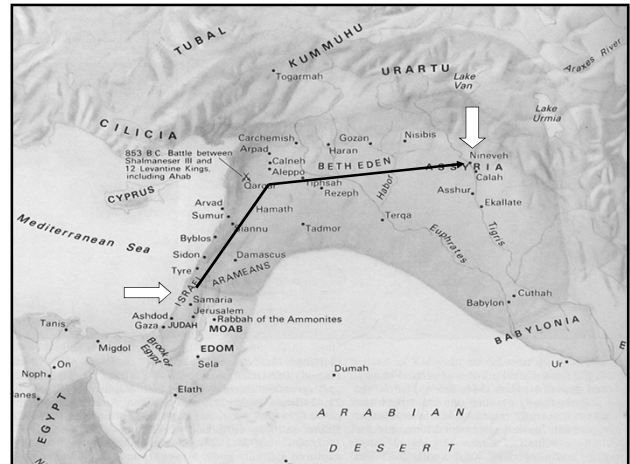
Jonah

“Be Merciful as God is Merciful”

- God’s mercy extends to all who call upon in faith and repentance
- Lesson—we are to be merciful

Jonah: God’s Mercy Displayed

- 1) God shows mercy to idolatrous sailors who turn to Him in faith (chpt. 1)
- 2) God shows mercy to His disobedient prophet who cries to Him in distress (chpt. 2)
- 3) God shows mercy to the great, wicked city of Nineveh that repents and believes (chpt. 3)



Lesson of Jonah

1. Jonah’s Anger

- Bad theology: Yahweh is for Israel only and against Israel’s enemies
- Hypocrisy: Jonah experienced God’s mercy but wanted it withheld from others

2. Jonah Exposed (plant & the worm)

- Lesson: if Jonah is right to have compassion on a plant, then should not God be right to have compassion on 120,000 people?

Ending: A Question to the Reader

Is it right for God to have mercy on Nineveh?

- The obvious answer is “yes”; corrects wrong views of God
- Is this the answer of our heart? Do we have the same compassion and rejoice to see His compassion displayed?

Application

Question: *When it comes to “Nineveh-like” sinners, do we imitate God or Jonah?*

- 1. World missions:** Islamic nations, communist countries, third-world idolaters
- 2. Our Community:** is our focus on separation or reaching sinners with the gospel