



*“Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.” (Jn. 9:3)*

A COSTLY DECISION TO  
RUN

# JONAH

- The narrative teaches a powerful lesson about the foolishness of resisting or running from God
- What can we learn?



# LESSON #1

- The Lord does not withdraw His commands simply because we are unwilling to obey them
- “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.” (Matt. 24:35)
- Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God.” (Mk. 10:23)
- **My opinion regarding God’s commands will not change how He will judge me**

# LESSON #2

- It is impossible to run from God successfully
- How do people today attempt to run from God?
- "So I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor. Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun." (Eccl. 2:9-11)



# LESSON #2

- “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.” (Eph. 6:4)
- “...whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” (Matt. 5:28)
- “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.” (Eph. 5:22)

# LESSON #3

- Running from God results in painful circumstances
- The greater the calling or responsibility, the greater the guilt that will be associated with the disobedience
- Sin always results in loss



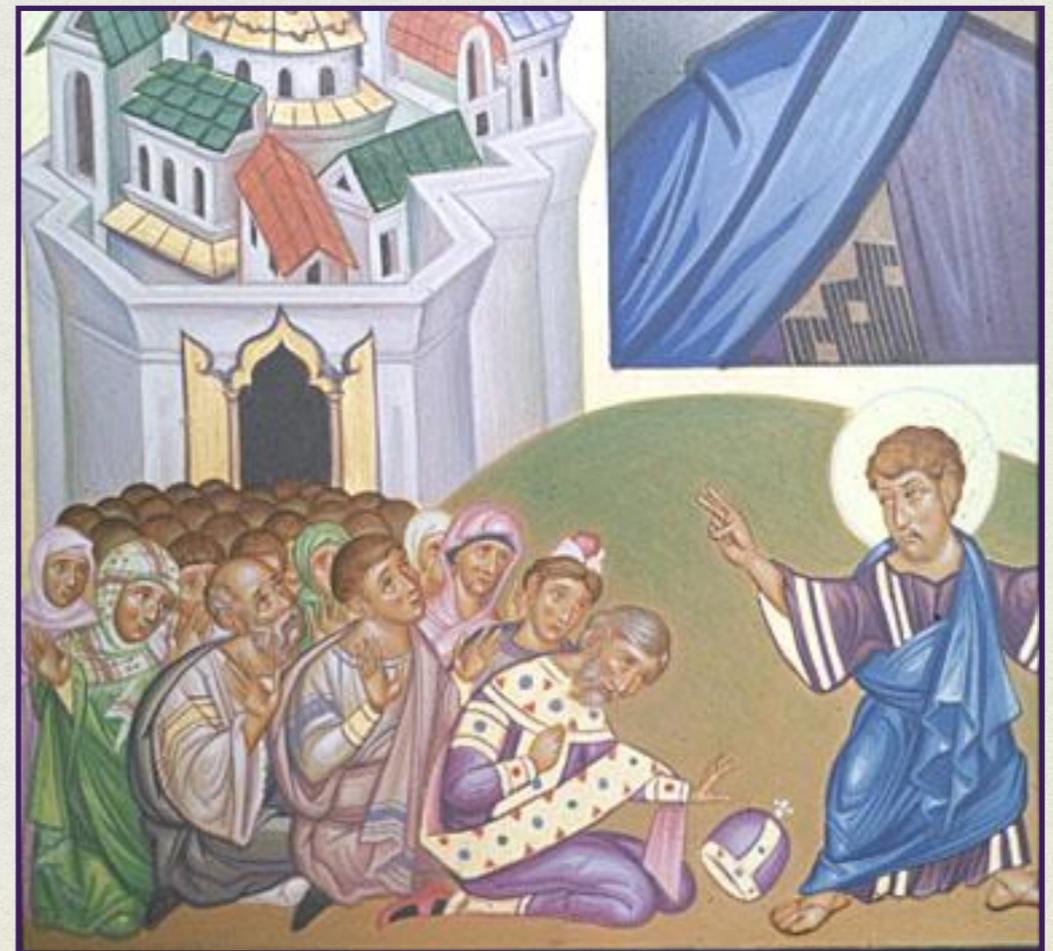
# LESSON #4

- Your disobedience will often bring pain and loss to others
- “...so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.”  
(Rom. 12:5)



# LESSON #5

- God's grace frequently provides second chances
- Jonah
- The Ninevites



# SUMMARY

1. The Lord does not withdraw His commands simply because we are unwilling to obey them
2. It is impossible to run from God successfully
3. Running from God results in painful circumstances
4. Your disobedience will often bring pain and loss to others
5. God's grace frequently provides second chances