

Salvation belongs to the Lord!

Jonah 2:1-9

Big Idea: Our reaction to difficulty often comes in two forms: repentance or rebellion. Choose repentance.

¹⁷ And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. **2:1** Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, ² saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

³ For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. ⁴ Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' ⁵ The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head ⁶ at the roots of the mountains.

I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. ⁷ When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. ⁸ Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. ⁹ But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!" (Jon 2:1-9 ESV)

Big Idea: Our reaction to difficulty often comes in two forms: repentance or rebellion. Choose repentance.

Salvation belongs to the Lord.

1. Remember God's character (vv. 1-2).
2. Take responsibility (vv. 3-6a).
3. Receive forgiveness (v. 6b-8).
4. Obey God (v. 9).
5. Jonah as a type of Christ.

1. Remember God's Character (v. 1).

2:1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, ² saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

Remember God's character.

- i. Talk to God, he still loves you (v. 1a).
- ii. Messing up doesn't remove sonship (v. 1).
- iii. Let difficulty drive you to the Lord (v. 2a).
- iv. God listens to us in our storms (v. 2b).
- v. God is ... (Ex 34:6-7; cf. Jonah 4:2).

2. Take responsibility (vv. 3-6a).

³ For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. ⁴ Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' ⁵ The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head ⁶ at the roots of the mountains.

Take responsibility.

- i. Seek God's purpose in the storm.
- ii. Accept God's judgement (vv. 3-4).
- iii. Acknowledge your fault (vv. 5-6).
- iv. Without taking responsibility, there is no forgiveness (1Jn 1:8-9; Rom 10:9).

3. Receive forgiveness (vv. 6b-8).

I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. ⁷ When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. ⁸ Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love.

Receive forgiveness.

- i. God rescues sinners (v. 6).
- ii. Accept God's forgiveness (v. 8; Mt 11:28).

4. Obey God (v. 9).

“But I with the voice of thanksgiving will
sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay.
Salvation belongs to the LORD!”

Obey God.

- i. Obedience demonstrates repentance.
- ii. Do what the Lord says.
- iii. Salvation belongs to the Lord!

5. Jonah as a type of Christ.

⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. (Mat 12:40-41 ESV)

Jonah as a type (shadow) of Christ.

- i. Forsaken by God.
- ii. Put to death for sinners.
- iii. Raised again on the third day.
- iv. Sent for the salvation of the world.

Repent, for the kingdom of
heaven is at hand.