

SLEEPING THROUGH THE STORM

Jonah chapter 1

Sunday 6 May 2018

A Faithful Prophet? (v.1-2)

*“The **word of the LORD** came to Jonah **son of Amittai**” (v.1)*

See also: 2 Kings 14:25

*“Go to the **great city of Nineveh...**” (v.2)*

See also: Nahum 3:1

The Wings of a ‘Dove’ (v.3)

“Oh, that I had the wings of a dove! That I might fly away and be at rest – I would flee far away and stay in the desert; I would hurry to my place of shelter, far from the tempest and storm.”

Psalm 55:6-8

Crying out for help (v.4-5a)

"...the LORD sent a great wind on the sea.... the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god."

"How can you sleep?" (v.5b-6)

See also: Mark 4:35-41

Why keep them guessing? (v.7-9)

"I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land." (v.9)

Letting the truth sink in (v.10)

"This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (v.10)

Trying to put things right (v.11-13)

Our right response to the Sovereign God. (v.14-16)

Down, **Down**, Down.

Ready to Rescue (v.17)

“But the Lord provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights”. v.17

*“You see at **just the right time**, when we were still (weak and) powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.”* Romans 5:6

**What is God saying or challenging you about?
Perhaps try to share that with someone this week.**

Growth group questions

You will find it helpful to have heard the talk so why not listen at: <http://leightonbaptists.org.uk/media-links/current-teaching/>
Some of these questions are personal and others are more general. Feel free to pick and choose which questions your group will find most helpful.

1. **Read Psalm 55:4-8.** Is it ever a good idea to run away?
2. **Read Jonah 1:1-3.** Why do you think Jonah wanted to 'flee from the Lord'?
3. Look up **Isaiah 60:9** and **1 Kings 10:22**. Tarshish was extremely far away. Why might Jonah have thought it was a good place to go?
4. **Read Jonah 1:4-6.** Why do you think Jonah sleeps rather than speaking up?
5. **Read verses 7-9.** What might the sailors have thought about Jonah's behaviour? (What does **v.14** reveal about their view of him?)
6. In **verse 9**, Jonah claimed to 'worship' (or 'fear') the LORD. Read **verses 15-16**. How do sailors show their 'fear of the LORD' in way that contrasts with Jonah?
7. How easily do you ignore God in your language, behaviour, decisions and attitudes?

Pray that God would help each of you to live rightly before Him.