

“Non-Prophet”

Jonah 1:1-3

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / June 13, 2021

- I. **You need to remember the spoken Word of God and the written Word of God are the exact same thing!**

Jonah 1:1 “Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying...”

2 Tim. 3:16-17 “**All Scripture is breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

How is Scripture “God-breathed?”

- A. **Sometimes God told the writers of Scripture exactly what to say and write.**

Jeremiah 1:9 “Then the Lord put out His hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.”

- B. **Most times, God worked in their minds, hearts, experiences and vocabularies to produce His perfect, infallible inerrant Word.**

1 Thessalonians 2:13 “And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.”

2 Peter 1:20-21 “...knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

Just like the Word of the Lord came to Jonah, the Word of the Lord comes to you whenever you read it.

II. The Christian life is not without risk. It's not uncommon for Christianity to surprise you, scare you, cost you & bless you.

Jonah 1:2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me."

4 Rational Lies We Believe That Lead to Disobedience

1. *If this was God's will for me, He would've given me a reason. (Gen. 3:8)*
2. *If this was God's best for me, I wouldn't be upset about it. (Gen. 4:5ff)*
3. *If this was God's will for me, it would make sense to me. (Gen. 22:1,2)*
4. *If this was God's will for me, it wouldn't be so risky. (Matt. 14:28ff)*

III. Since God is the main character in your life, your obedience shows your view of Him more than anything else.

Jonah 1:3 "But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish **from the presence of the Lord**. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, **away from the presence of the Lord.**"

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 "For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete."

STANDING → SUSCEPTIBLE → SEDUCED → SIN → SHAME → STUPIDITY → STONE
(Things are good) → (Not a big deal) → (Rational lies) → (I did it) → (Hide) → (Duh) → (Numb)

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. Do you think your life would be different if God spoke audibly to you as He did to Jonah? Why or why not?
2. How will remembering the Bible is "God-breathed" change your thoughts on Bible intake? How might it affect your thoughts on biblical obedience?
3. Why is it tempting to think that circumstances fitting together well proves that a course of action must be the will of God?
4. When was the last time you were in a situation from which you wished to run?
5. Recall a time you sensed God's call to act. How did you respond?