

# *Our Desperate Cry*

Man Overboard Series – Part 3

Scripture text – Jonah 1:17-2:10

## Introduction

- This is the prayer that Jonah prayed \_\_\_\_\_ the fish. He's still in \_\_\_\_\_, but he's praising God for having delivered him from \_\_\_\_\_.
- Main idea: God \_\_\_\_\_ his children when they cry out to him in \_\_\_\_\_.

## 5 Insights

- 1) God answers us despite our \_\_\_\_\_ & his \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Don't allow guilt & shame to \_\_\_\_\_ from crying out to God.
  - God *does* punish his children, sometimes severely, but his punishment is always \_\_\_\_\_, never \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) God answers us even when circumstances appear \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to get out of.
  - Jonah had literally reached the \_\_\_\_\_. Sometimes God must allow this in order to get our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - However, when we reach that point, we must remember that, for God's children, there's no such thing as a \_\_\_\_\_ situation.
- 3) God answers us at just the right \_\_\_\_\_; he is neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The most common question asked of God in the Bible isn't " \_\_\_\_\_?", but " \_\_\_\_\_?"
  - We want God to operate on our \_\_\_\_\_, but he doesn't.
- 4) God answers us in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - There is \_\_\_\_\_ in this, but this is where we \_\_\_\_\_ as people of faith; you might say, we live in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the fish, awaiting the fullness of our salvation.

*continued on the reverse side*

- This is where the prosperity preachers get it \_\_\_\_\_.\* Prosperity theology neglects the principle of “the \_\_\_\_\_ but the \_\_\_\_\_.”

5) God answers us in order to inspire our undivided \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

- Jonah understood that no \_\_\_\_\_ could deliver him as God did.
- 2 types of idolatry in the Bible:
  - a) The literal bowing down to the \_\_\_\_\_ of other religions or nations.
  - b) An internal idolatry of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- An idol is anything more important to you than \_\_\_\_\_; anything that absorbs your \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ more than God.
- God demands our undivided loyalty & devotion, and the amazing thing is, he will work to \_\_\_\_\_ it.

### The Missing Piece

- What’s missing from Jonah’s prayer is \_\_\_\_\_.
- This speaks to the \_\_\_\_\_ of our faith journey. It’s never as simple as pure \_\_\_\_\_ versus pure \_\_\_\_\_.
- We must be \_\_\_\_\_ with ourselves; at the same time, we mustn’t become \_\_\_\_\_.

### Discussion Questions

1. Which “insight” is most significant to you?
2. What are some possible idols in your life?

### \*Explanatory Note

In recent sermons, I have often referred to Prosperity Theology. The reason I do so is because prosperity theology is probably the most prominent heretical teaching of this age, at least in America. One scholar estimates it is taught in 40% of Protestant churches. Due to its popularity (including here in Harlan), I plan to offer a 2-hour seminar on prosperity theology in the near future.

