

# *Behold Your God*

Man Overboard Series – Part 7

Scripture text – Jonah 4:5-11

## Introduction

This is an \_\_\_\_\_ sequence of events:

1. Jonah camps \_\_\_\_\_ Nineveh
2. God provides a \_\_\_\_\_ for shade
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ eats the vine
4. Jonah again becomes \_\_\_\_\_

## The Vine-Worm Object Lesson

- The LORD observed & pointed out to Jonah that he (Jonah) was “\_\_\_\_\_” about the vine. This means he grieved its demise.
- God essentially then asked: “Given this, \_\_\_\_\_ should I grieve over the demise of many thousands of precious human beings made in my image?”
- What God is doing here is revealing his \_\_\_\_\_ for even the worst of humanity.
- God is thus showing us his \_\_\_\_\_. He is vulnerable to our \_\_\_\_\_ & pain, to our \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and lostness.
- The Ninevites are still \_\_\_\_\_ for their wickedness. At the same time, God demonstrates remarkable \_\_\_\_\_ & understanding.

## Our Reaction

- We’re not told Jonah’s reaction so we can reflect deeply on our \_\_\_\_\_.
- Ideally, as we contemplate the great mercy of God, our hearts will \_\_\_\_\_ and overflow with \_\_\_\_\_.

*continued on reverse side*

- Perhaps a more common response is a big \_\_\_\_\_. There are 2 possible reasons for this:
  1. Deep-down, we don't think we require all that much \_\_\_\_\_ from God; just a teeny-tiny bit will do.
  2. We don't take seriously God's \_\_\_\_\_.

### Understanding God

- Almost daily, we're reminded of the inappropriateness of \_\_\_\_\_. We then extend that to God.
- However, God's judgment is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (Historical note: Nineveh was destroyed in \_\_\_\_\_ BC.)
- It's his judgment that make his mercy so \_\_\_\_\_!
- The combination of God's judgment & mercy is often \_\_\_\_\_. But these 2 attributes of God come together perfectly in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Whenever you're confused about God, just look at the \_\_\_\_\_.

### The Greater Jonah

- Jonah is a \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus; this means, his story is intended to teach us about & point us to Christ.
- 2 stark differences:
  1. Jonah went to the city reluctantly & full of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Jesus went to the city (Jerusalem) willingly & with \_\_\_\_\_ in his eyes (see Luke 19:41).
  2. Jonah went outside the city hoping to witness its \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Jesus went outside the city to die on a cross & accomplish its \_\_\_\_\_.
- Tim Keller: "Jesus is the prophet Jonah \_\_\_\_\_ have been."

### My Appeal

I appeal to you today to reflect carefully on the reality & severity of God's judgment. Your only hope is to believe on Christ, the "greater Jonah." To "believe on Christ" means to rely solely on his death & resurrection for right standing with God. Once you believe on him, then join with other believers in praising him for his great mercy.