

Jonah Pouted - Jonah 4
12-03-17

There are several lessons in Jonah 4.

First, let us consider the lesson on providence. There is a specific term used four times: God appointed.

Consider what God appointed and why:

God appointed a fish – Preservation

God appointed a plant – Shelter

God appointed a worm – Testing

God appointed a wind – Trial

Lesson – God works through things in the world to accomplish His purpose. We call this work Providence. His providence may not always be what we desire, but it accomplishes His purposes.

Second, Is it right to want our enemies destroyed?

- Job 31:29, Proverbs 24:17, Obadiah 1:12

- Romans 5:8 (Ezekiel 18), Matthew 5:43-48

Third, Is there a good reason to be angry?

- Anger is an emotional response

- Emotions often betray us

- Mark 3:3-5, Ephesians 4:26

- Colossians 3:8, Ephesians 4:31

Fourth, Is there a good reason to despair?

- 2 Corinthians 1:8

- Hebrews 12:3-5

Fifth, How can we learn compassion?

- Commonality and understanding

- Malachi 2:10, Mark 6:34

- Self-Examination

- Matthew 18:33

Finally, we learn about God's patience in our growth

- God's remarkable patience with Jonah

- Jonah was driven by emotional reactions

Running away from his duty

Getting upset about Nineveh's salvation

Getting upset about the vine's death

- We need to love the lost as God does

- We love them as fellow created ones

- We love them as God loved us