

# 5 Things God Will Not Do

*From the Book of Jonah*

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## **GOD WILL NOT OVERLOOK SIN. – JONAH 1:1-2**

The inspired word says, “*Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.*” Interestingly, God sent a prophet from the children of Israel to a people who were not the children of Israel. They did not have access to the priests of Levi or the Ten Commandments, yet they were under a law for God does not overlook their sins. We do not know what sins prompted God to send Jonah, but we see from this very clearly that God did not overlook their sin just because they were not of the 12 tribes. Thus, we should understand there are no sins that God will overlook today, and all men everywhere need repentance, Acts 17:29-31.

## **GOD WILL NOT RELEASE US FROM OUR RESPONSIBILITIES JONAH 1:3-16**

One of the favorite things I hear preachers say when speaking of Jonah is Jonah ran as far away as he could from going where God told him to go, Jonah 1:3-4. Yet, it would not have mattered if it had been the next city over. If God had said go to Nineveh and Jonah ran to any other city, he would have been in trouble. It is no different with us today; while God does not speak directly to us today, He speaks to us through his Son (Hebrews 1:1-2.) We, as Christians, are commanded much like Jonah was to preach to a people. “*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen*” (Matt. 28:18-20). All men are commanded to repent, to become Christians, and then to convert others while living every day striving to be more Christ-like.

Doing anything other than what God has asked us to do puts us in the same boat as Jonah, and we will find that on the day of judgment, we, as Jonah, will not be released from our responsibilities.

## **GOD WILL NOT IGNORE OUR CRIES OF CHANGE – JONAH 1:17 & 2:1-10**

Jonah was a prophet; we know this not from Jonah 1:1, but from 2 Kings 14:25, “*He restored the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath unto the sea of the plain, according to the word of the LORD God of Israel, which he spake by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, which was of Gathhepher.*” From this, we see he was a prophet; (we will return to this and notice something else).

So, this man of God disobeys God, yet God gives him hope of repentance, Jonah 1:17. Not only is God longsuffering in allowing Jonah to repent, but he gives him ample time to consider. It is inside this fish that Jonah comes to realize he made a commitment to God and will do as God says. (Jonah 2:7-10)

Let us not reach the point where God has to speak to a fish and vomit us out on dry land. Instead, let us obey the Lord today while there is still time because we know what happens next.

*(continued next week)*