

“Compassion for Jonah”
Bible Stories Sermon Series, Pt. 32 - Jonah 4:1-11
April 14, 2019

I. Jonah’s anger over Nineveh’s being spared (4:1-5):

- A. Jonah was hot with rage.
- B. Jonah lashes out at God for showing mercy.
- C. Jonah prays for death.
- D. The Lord asks Jonah if he has a good reason to be angry; Jonah ignores Him.

II. The Lord compassionately addresses Jonah’s anger (4:6-11):

- A. Jonah was hot again, from the sun this time.
- B. The Lord creates a plant to shade him; Jonah is overjoyed.
- C. The Lord sends a worm to kill the plant; Jonah begs for death.
- D. The Lord asks Jonah if he has good reason to be angry over the plant’s death; Jonah affirms that he does.
- E. The lesson of the plant...
 - 1. Because the plant blessed Jonah, he had compassion on it and was immensely sorrowful for the loss, even though he didn’t grow it.
 - 2. Should God not have infinitely more compassion on His own beloved creation?

Ezekiel 18:23 - Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? declares the Sovereign Lord. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live?

Micah 7:18b - ...You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

- F. The lesson of the “Greater Jonah”...