



## ***“Access to the Presence of God”***

Jonah 2:1-7 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon

November 26, 2023

***Introduction*** –*Jonah was a stranger to God’s grace, but that all changed when God answered his prayer and saved him from certain death.*

### ***I. Our Trouble with Praying.***

A. Chapter 2 is a record of Jonah’s prayer.

B. Up to this point Jonah isn’t praying.

C. Why wasn’t Jonah praying?

1. He didn’t need anything.
2. Something was wrong.

D. A Biblical idiom for prayer is “drawing near to God.”

### ***II. Our Access to God in Prayer.***

A. When Jonah began to pray, he looked toward God’s holy temple.

B. God’s holy temple is a picture of the Gospel.

C. God’s holy temple gives us the good news and bad news of the Gospel.

D. The bad news is related to the temple’s connection to God’s moral law.

1. In the holy of holies was the ark of the covenant.
2. The ten commandments were in the ark of the covenant.
3. God will only meet with us over His law.

E. The temple also shows us the good news of the Gospel.

1. Over the ark of the covenant was the mercy seat, in Greek a word meaning “propitiation.”
2. The sacrificial blood that was shed for the sins of the people was placed on the mercy seat.
3. Jesus is the mercy seat.

***Conclusion.***