



## ***“Old Sins Die Hard”***

Jonah 3:4-4:4 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon  
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***Introduction*** –After Jonah’s preaching and spiritual revival in Nineveh, Jonah collapses in anger toward God. Jonah doesn’t understand why God let the Ninevites off.

### ***I. Misunderstanding God’s Love.***

- A. Jonah’s response to God indicates that he doesn’t understand how God’s love works.
  
- B. Jonah has fallen back into his old sins, and that is behind his anger toward God.
  
- C. But, Jonah’s life is dependent on God’s patient love.

### ***II. Receiving God’s Patient Love.***

- A. Believers can fall back into old patterns of sin and self-deception. But God is patient.
  
- B. We don’t realize how persistent our sin is, and we mask it instead of admitting it by rationalizing, minimizing and excusing it.
  
- C. How can we avoid falling back into our old sins?
  - 1. Examine your heart. Look at your motives.
  
  - 2. Identify and smash the idols in your life.
  
  - 3. Make sure we are consistent in using the spiritual resources that God has made available to us.
    - a. Prayer.
    - b. Receiving God’s Word.
    - c. Worship and fellowship.
    - d. Confession and repentance.

***Conclusion.***