

"God's Far-Reaching Love"

Jonah 4:1-11 ◆ Pastor Jim Lennon March 10, 2024

Introduction – The book of Jonah teaches us some important truths about God and lessons about our relationship with Him. But it ultimately points us to Jesus Christ.

I. The Extent of God's Love.

- A. How far does God's love reach?
- B. Jonah's behavior merits God's rejection, instead he gets His grace.
- C. Nineveh's wickedness merits God's judgment, instead they get His grace.
- D. We have a hard time accepting how far God's loves reaches because we have a one-dimensional view of love.
- E. God doesn't give anybody what they deserve. Why?
- F. Jonah knew the reason.

II. The Freedom of God's Love.

- A. Who does God's love reach?
- B. God's love reaches everybody and anybody to whom God wants to give it.

- C. All the choices God makes are good and righteous altogether.
- D. God reserves the right to be merciful to whomever He wants.
- E. Using the vine, God wants Jonah and us to ask what it is we are deeply concerned about.
- F. We can become too attached to the comforts God provides.

III. The Triumph of God's Love.

- A. At the end of the book God is asking Jonah to repent of his sins of racism and the rival gods he holds, in order to love God and the things He loves.
- B. The book ends abruptly without knowing how Jonah responded.
- C. Ultimately, the book of Jonah points us to Jesus.

Conclusion.