

# **HARD QUESTIONS FOR JONAH**

(Jonah 1:4-12)

- Introduction:
1. Most of us are familiar with the book of Jonah, and since the time of our childhood, were thrilled by the events recorded in this book.
  2. Much more than a story about a fish and a man, this book contains many insightful questions that have application even today.
  3. For the next few minutes, let us examine several of these questions.

## **I. "WHAT DO YOU MEAN, O SLEEPER?"**

- A. The sailors onboard this ship could not believe that Jonah was sleeping when their life was being threatened.
- B. Their question is one of astonishment: *"How can you sleep at a time like this?"*
- C. We too, need to be asked the same question.
  1. Have we been asleep to our obligations (I Corinthians 15:34)?
  2. Have we been asleep to our opportunities (Ephesians 5:14)?
  3. Have we been asleep to our enemy (I Peter 5:8)?
  4. Have we been asleep to our Lord's return (Matthew 25:13)?

## **II. "FOR WHOSE CAUSE?"**

- A. This question was also asked by the sailors.
- B. They were wanting to know who was to blame, who was guilty for their misfortune.
- C. Personal accountability and responsibility are the first steps to reconciliation with God.
- D. (Genesis 3:8-13) Adam and Eve.
- E. (II Samuel 12:7) David and Nathan.

## **III. "WHAT IS YOUR OCCUPATION?"**

- A. This must have been a very embarrassing question for Job.
- B. This prophet of God was caught running from God.
- C. Could be also be guilty of running from God, failing to fulfill our occupation?
  1. Preachers (II Timothy 4:1-4).
  2. Elders (I Peter 5:1-2).
  3. Parents (Ephesians 6:1-4).
  4. Sinners (Amos 4:12).

## **IV. "WHY HAVE YOU DONE THIS?"**

- A. These sailors were upset with Jonah and his actions because of the way they were being affected.
- B. Jonah's disobedience was not a private matter that affected no one else but himself.
- C. In view of the results, we do we disobey God?

1. We are lost (Romans 6:23).
2. We hurt our family (Matthew 18:6-7).
3. We hurt the church (Ephesians 5:25).

**V. "WHAT SHALL WE DO TO YOU?"**

- A. There was a reckoning or an accounting that Jonah had to give to these sailors.
- B. Likewise, there will be a day of accounting for us, when God will ask the same question.
- C. (Acts 17:30-31).
- D. (II Thess. 1:7-10).
- E. (John 5:28-29).

Conclusion: 1. If you did not fair too well answering the questions that were asked of Jonah, then why not make the corrections your life needs, today.