

**ENGLISH WORSHIP SERVICE - APRIL 2, 2017**

**TOPIC: GOD'S UNCONDITIONAL BLESSINGS!**

Sermon 2: *God's Pardon!*

**TEXT:** Jonah 2:1-10

**INTRO:** Background of Jonah 1-2!

**WHY DID GOD PARDON JONAH IN SPITE OF HIS OPEN REBELLION & WILLFUL DISOBEDIENCE TO HIS PLAIN COMMAND:**

**I. JONAH ACKNOWLEDGED GOD ANSWERS PRAYER:  
vv.1-2**

1. When he "called" to the Lord for rescue - v.2
2. When he realized that his life was in serious danger - vv.3-7

Note: In verse 7, he "remembered" the Lord when he was in deep trouble!

Why?

- A. Because, for the most part, we Christians remember our God only when we are in crisis!
- B. Because for the most part, we Christians remember our God only when we are in crisis, and this makes us deal seriously with Him-Matt.14:30

"Like Jonah, God will answer our prayers, especially in times of sadness, hopelessness, and despair!"

**II. JONAH ACKNOWLEDGED GOD AS LIFESAVER:  
vv.5a,6b**

- A Drowning Boy!
  1. It was God who brought him out of a near-death experience - v.5a
  2. It was God who brought him out of a near-death experience and "back to life" - v.6b
    - March 20, 2017 Caledon Experience!

"Like Jonah, God will be there to save us and spare our life, especially, when He has tasked us to preach the Gospel to the lost!"

**III. JONAH ACKNOWLEDGED GOD'S GRACIOUSNESS:  
vv.8-9**

1. Jonah shows that those who worship "worthless idols" miss out on the grace of God - v.8 cf. Psalm 115:2-8
2. Jonah notes that God's grace results to salvation! - v.9b

"God's all-sufficient grace will be upon us despite our shortcomings in Him!"

**CONCLUSION: Loving - Whether Good Or Bad!**

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**God's Pardon - Caring For Family's Killer!**

In 1946, Czeslaw Godlewski was a member of a young gang that roamed and sacked the German countryside. On an isolated farm, they gunned down ten members of the Wilhelm Hamelmann family. Nine of the victims died, but Wilhelm Hamelmann himself survived his four bullet wounds.

Godlewski then recently completed a twenty-year prison term for his crimes, but the state would not release him because he had nowhere to go. When Hamelmann learned of the situation, he asked the authorities to release Godlewski to his custody. He wrote in his request, "Christ died for my sins and forgave me. Should I not then forgive this man?" - Gospel Herald

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**Verse For Today**

"Who is a God like You, who pardons sin!" - Micah 7:18

**Food For Thought**

"Stop remembering what God has forgotten!" -Psalm 103:12

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