

Sermon Title: "I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME" - Running Ahead of God

Date: May 19, 2024 - Jonah 4

Central Idea: The heart of every problem is the problem in the heart. Do you have a heart problem?

Introduction:

If God wanted only to save the city of Nineveh, the book of Jonah would have ended with chapter 3. But there was still more work to do, for God wanted to save His servant from himself. Jonah was an angry man (vv. 1, 2, 4, 9) who wanted to see Nineveh destroyed.

God listened to Jonah and responded to him.

I. Jonah's Anger

II. Jonah's Second Prayer

III. Jonah's Secret

IV. Jonah's Reputation

V. God's Response

Conclusion:

The basic problem was that Jonah was not completely yielded to God. His mind knew God's truth, and his will obeyed God's orders, but he did not do the will of God "from the heart." Ephesians 6:6 instructs us, "Don't work only while being watched, as people pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, do God's will from your heart." Jonah certainly had good theology, but it stayed in his head and never got to his heart, and he was so distraught that he wanted to die! God's tender response was to ask Jonah to examine his heart and see why he really was angry.