

## RESISTANCE OF A RACIST REBEL

### Jonah 1:1–12

It is easy to misread the book of Jonah. Ask others their first thought when they think of Jonah's story, and the vast majority will mention his being "swallowed by a whale." To them, that's the main part of the story. While that may be the strangest part of the story, it certainly isn't the main point. This is the story of the Lord's working in the heart of one of His prophets, a very narrow-minded and prejudiced prophet who found the call of God somewhere between disturbing and disgusting. In a deliberate act of rebellion, he resisted God's calling him to Nineveh and made plans to escape in the opposite direction—to the farthest distance he could even imagine, to the western-most extreme of the vast Mediterranean Sea! It didn't take long for him to learn the very real lesson, that "he can run, but he cannot hide!"

#### I. The Lord's Clear Commission (vv. 1–2)

- "Get up!"
- "Go to Nineveh!"
- "Announce My judgment!"
- The heart of God: \_\_\_\_\_

#### II. The Prophet's Rebellious Reaction . . . and Why (v. 3)

- He got up
- He went to Joppa
- He found a ship leaving for Tarshish
- The resistance of Jonah: \_\_\_\_\_

#### III. The Lord's "Hounds of Heaven" (vv. 4–12)

- The Lord and the storm
- The sailors and their passenger
- The prophet and his God
- The message of this story: \_\_\_\_\_

#### IV. Lasting Truths That Matter

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.