Wake Up Call

Jonah 1:10-17

**Recap:**

* **Running From God (Jonah 1:1-3)**
* **The Storm of Disobedience (vv. 4-9)**
  + **The Storm Sent by God (v. 4)**
  + **The Sailors’ Fear and Response (vv. 5-6)**
  + **The Casting of Lots (v. 7)**
  + **Jonah’s Confession (vv. 8-9)**

**Introduction**

* **Jonah 1:10-17**
* **Patiently, deliberately, the “Hound of Heaven” pursues the rebel until he knows the rest of redemption in Him.**
* **Yes, the sinner comes, willingly and freely, but only because the “Hound of Heaven” has first done the secret work of bringing the sinner to Himself.**
* **Just as the Lord pursued a rebellious Jonah and pagan sailors in a raging sea. He pursues sinners until they know the peace of being reconciled to God through faith in Christ.**
* **Today we will look at Jonah’s Wake Up Call and sometimes it is good when we have our own wakeup call as well.**

1. **He attracts attention to our Rebellion: Whether a man is a religious rebellion like Jonah or a pagan rebel like the sailors, he is a rebel, nonetheless. So how does the rebel turn from his rebellion? It comes by a divine work, attracting attention to our rebellion and bringing us into a right relationship with God through Christ. And He does it by:**
   1. **Fear of God (v. 5).**
      1. **Then the Sovereign Lord enters in! Men who had “no fear of God before his eyes” were seized with fare of God.**
      2. **First, it was the great storm that frightened the men (v. 5). But then they came to discover the reason for the storm, that it was sent by the Lord because of the rebellion of Jonah.**
      3. **They understood for the first time in their lives that there is a God in heaven who rules over the affairs of men, that all of creation exists at His pleasure.**
      4. **This was no ordinary fear caused by severe weather. It was a fear that gripped their souls. It was a fear of standing before an angry God.**
   2. **Admission of Guilt (vv. 7-10)**
      1. **The Lord God brought Jonah face to face with the guilt of his sin. No more excuses. No more running.**
      2. **Through God might justly take Jonah’s life in the angry jaws of the sea, Jonah will hide no longer. He comes clean to God.**
2. **He brings us to Desperation (vv. 5, 11, 14-16): If a sinner thinks that he can save himself by his own effort, he will not look Godward. Man naturally has a self-dependence, especially when it comes to eternal things. That is symptomatic of the fall. How?**
   1. **Sense of Hopelessness.**
      1. **Until a person sees that he cannot save himself from God’s judgment, he will not be motivated to flee to the Lord for refuge from the storm of God’s wrath.**
      2. **That is why conviction of sin becomes so intense by the work of the Holy Spirit. He presses the reality of our separation from God so that we realize that our hands are empty and useless in putting us into a right relationship with God.**
   2. **Death to Self**
      1. **The Sailors**
         1. **Fear turns to faith-They acknowledge God’s greatness.**
         2. **They offered sacrifices-A sign of true repentance.**
         3. **They make vows to the Lord- A transformation of the heart.**
      2. **Jonah**
         1. **We see death taking place in the rebellious Jonah!**
         2. **Not that Jonah died physically when he spent three days in the fish’s belly; Jonah died to his own self will as he resigned himself to be cast overboard on behalf of the crew.**
3. **He reveals himself (vv. 4, 16-17)**
   1. **As Sovereign Judge (v. 4)**
   2. **As a Merciful Redeemer (vv. 16-17)**
      1. **God appoints a great fish- Divine Intervention**
      2. **Jonah is swallowed but not consumed- A picture of Mercy.**
      3. **Three Days and Three Nights- Foreshadowing Christ’s burial and resurrection.**

**Conclusion/Application**

* **God’s Sovereignty- He directs all things, even storms and creatures.**
* **Our Rebellion- Running from God only leads to trouble.**
* **God’s Mercy- Even in judgment, God provides rescue.**