

IS IT RIGHT FOR YOU TO BE ANGRY? Jonah 4:1-4

Sometimes we think God is just wrong Jonah 4:1

Jonah 4:1 – *“But it greatly displeased Jonah and he became angry.”*

- Jonah had theological problems with God:
 - Why does God allow evil to succeed?
 - How can God keep His promises to uphold Israel and at the same time show mercy to their enemies?
 - How can God claim to be a God of justice and allow evil to go unpunished?
- The love of God and the justice of God seem like contradictions without the cross.
- Can God be wrong? How do you respond to God when life doesn't go your way?

Sometimes our anger gets the best of us Jonah 4:2-3

Jonah 4:3 – *“Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for death is better to me than life.”*

- Jonah had a heart issue with God.
- Jonah prefers his death to God's mercy for Nineveh.
- Jonah quotes Exodus 34:6-7 as a way to show God how angry he is.
- Like Jonah, we reveal our heart to God when we hold our personal view above God's views in the Bible.

Jonah put his nation above God's kingdom Jonah 4:2-3

Jonah 4:2 – *“Please Lord, was not this what I said while I was still in my own country?”*

- Nineveh's redemption could threaten Israel's national interests.
Jonah leaves no doubt which was more important to him.
- Jonah wasn't wrong in his assessment of the Assyrian Empire.
- Jesus has called us to love our neighbor. Who is your neighbor?
- As long as there is something more important than God to your heart – you will be fragile, self-righteous and idolatrous.

Do you do well to be angry? Jonah 4:4

Jonah 4:4 – *“The Lord said, ‘Do you have good reason to be angry?’”*

- What's the root of your anger with God?
- Response: A time of silent prayer processing through our anger towards God.

Digging Deeper + LifeGroup Discussion:

1. How do you think we can honestly assess if we fall into the trap of Jonah thinking he was right and God was wrong? Share any times you've been able to see yourself do this poorly.
2. How have you seen yourself place love of nation above love of God? Or love of anything over God?
3. Share a time that you have been angry with God. What parts of that were healthy or unhealthy? How did God meet you in that place of emotion.

Next Steps:

GROW IN COMMUNITY: The Bible encourages Jesus-followers to be planted, rooted, growing, maturing, and able to withstand the pressures of the world. At Calvary, we believe this happens best in community. So, take a next step today and explore ways to deepen and grow in your faith by joining a Group or attending a Gathering. Pick up the new Fall 2019 Groups & Gatherings guide in the Lobby or visit calvarylife.org/grow

RECEIVE CARE & HELP: When difficult life circumstance hit or we encounter periods of dramatic life change, what we experience can make our lives confusing and even unmanageable. Calvary Care Ministries exist to come alongside and walk this journey with you by offering biblically-based, Christ-centered resources to help you grow in your faith as you face challenging seasons in your life. Discover more at calvarylife.org/care

In Response:

COMMUNION: Communion is a "meal" for believers in Jesus to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

GIVING: The offering is received during each Sunday service. This is a way to express a wholehearted trust in God and worship Him through giving. It is also an act of obedience to God that helps free us from money having mastery over us. Tithing is a biblical command of 10% as a baseline of giving, but the New Testament calls us as followers of Jesus to give even more. Our prayer is that you give purposefully and joyfully, helping to further ministry locally and globally in Jesus' name. Discover ways to give at calvarylife.org/give

PRAYER POINTS: These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you after the sermon and after the service as well. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.

PRAYER ROOM: The Prayer Room is located at the front right of the Worship Center Auditorium through the doorway behind the Prayer Point. This is a quiet space that you can go to at anytime during the service to be able to pray and reflect on what God is doing in your heart.