

Love of God 4

On previous DAHs we have seen how God manifests His love towards us as a father and how He loved us since the beginning. In the previous one we could appreciate God's nature. In today's DAH we will see His love in action. I like the story of Jonah because it allows us to see that God has always been looking out for us.

Jonah 1:2 KJV

God asks Jonah to go to Nineveh to warn them. As we know Jonah disobeyed God and went to Tarshish. It's like if God asked you to go to the United States and you decide to go to Spain. He managed to get on a boat that will take him to Tarshish but on his way there was a great storm and they were all scared. After seeing who the culprit was, they threw Jonah overboard.

Jonah 1:15-17 KJV

It calls my attention that the sailors that believed in other gods after having this encounter with Jonah they believed in God. Maybe God had this calculated. He knew Jonah's attitude and He knew he was going to flee and took advantage of that event to reach the souls of these sailors.

Jonah 4:1-2 NIV

Jonah acknowledges that God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love... Sounds like what we talked about on the previous DAH, right? Well even if it seems odd, Jonah gets angry because God isn't going to destroy Nineveh and even asks God to take his life.

Jonah 4:9-11 NIV

In his anger Jonah goes to a Hill to look at the city and while he's there God provides him with a plant so that he could have a shadow he's enjoying the shadow on the next day God provides a worm that eats the plant and it dies. Jonah gets angry because the plant died, and God confronts him and asks if he has the right to get angry so much about the plant that he had nothing to do with and Jonah answers yes. To this God responds, "And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?". My only problem with the book of Jonah is that it ends there and leaves me wanting to read more about what happened next after God tells that to Jonah, but the point that I want you to see is that is common to think that God is compassionate only in the new testament, but He has always been like that. God is looking out for 1 person, various sailors, 120 thousand and every nation. His love and compassion haven't changed since the beginning in Genesis until the end in Revelation.

Verse to memorize

Jonah 4:2 NIV

He prayed to the Lord, "Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.