

Jonah 4

Advent, God's Character and History

Sermon Notes for the First Sunday After Christmas, December 30,, 2012 by Pastor Dennis R. Tuuri
Jonah and Advent, Part Four of Four

Introduction

New Year's Day, The Feast of the Circumcision of Christ, The Holy Name Day, Moby Dick, Community Groups and Mission

The Text

¹But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry.

²**So he prayed to the LORD**, and said, "Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish;

for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.

³Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live!"

⁴Then the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

⁵So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city.

⁶And the **LORD God prepared a plant** and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his **head** to **deliver him from his misery**.

So Jonah was very **grateful** for the plant.

⁷But as morning dawned the next day **God prepared a worm**, and it so damaged the plant that it withered.

⁸And it happened, when the sun arose, that **God prepared a vehement east wind**; and the sun beat on Jonah's **head**, so that he grew faint.

Then he **wished death** for himself, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹Then **God said to Jonah**, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?"

And he said, "It is right for me to be **angry, even to death!**"

¹⁰But the LORD said, "You have had **pity on the plant** for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night.

¹¹And should I not **pity Nineveh**, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left—and much livestock?"

Lessons

1. Jonah's Psychology As A Warning - Serve God's by Obeying His Word

2. The Character of God and World History - Think Big

3. Struggling with God's Providence in Prayer

4. Prepare Your Heart for the Hard Thing

The Old Year Now Away is Fled,
Alternate Title: *Carol For New Year's Day*

Words: English Traditional, From a Black Letter Collection, 1642,
Ashmolean Library, Oxford; Music: Greensleeves

Source: A. H. Bullen, [*A Christmas Garland*](#) (London: John C. Nimmo, 1885), pp. 211-3.

1. The old year now away is fled,
The new year it is enter-ed;
Then let us all our sins down tread,
And joyfully all appear.
Let's merry be this holiday,
And let us run with sport and play,
Hang¹ sorrow, let's cast care away
God send us a merry new year!^{2 3}

2. For Christ's circumcision this day we keep,
Who for our sins did often weep;
His hands and feet were wounded deep,
And his blessed side, with a spear.
His head they crowned then with thorn,
And at him they did laugh and scorn,
Who for to save our souls was born;
God send us a happy New Year!

3. And now with New-Year's gifts each friend
Unto each other they do send;
God grant we may our lives amend,
And that truth may now appear.
Now like the snake cast off your skin
Of evil thoughts and wicked sin,
And to amend this new year begin:
God send us a merry new year!

4. And now let all the company
In friendly manner all agree,
For we are here welcome all may see
Unto this jolly good cheer.
I thank my master and my dame,
The which are founders of the same,
To eat, to drink now is no shame:
God send us a happy new year!⁴

5. Come lads and lasses every one,
Jack, Tom, Dick, Bess, Mary and Joan,
Let's cut the meat unto the bone,
For welcome you need not fear.
And here for good liquor you shall not lack,
It will whet my brains and strengthen my back;
This jolly good cheer it must go to wrack:
God send us a happy new year!

6. Come, give's more liquor when I do call,
I'll drink to each one in this hall,
I hope that so loud I must not bawl,
So unto me lend an ear.
Good fortune to my master send,
And to our dame which is our friend,
Lord bless us all, and so I end:
God send us a happy new year!

Jonah 4 "Advent, Who God Is, and History"

Children's Notes for December 30, 2012 by Pastor Dennis Tuuri

1. Jesus was circumcised ___ days after he was born.
2. The 8th day is a sign of a new _____.
3. The temple, altar, priest & sacrifice all were ready on the ___th day.
4. Circumcision is a sign of a new _____.
5. Circumcision meant that the _____ had been reversed.
6. Jesus bled for us at the beginning and _____ of his life.
7. Real men _____ others sacrificially
8. When Jonah got mad, he _____.
9. He prayed the _____.
10. Its not enough to _____ and even pray God's Word.
11. Jesus was born to _____ the world.
12. God was very _____ to Nineveh and Jonah.
13. Jonah pitied the _____, just like God pitied Nineveh.
14. Who tries to destroy God's work? The _____.
15. Baptism reminds us to _____ God this year even when it hurts.
16. Our community _____ will try to reach our cities.
17. Our last sermon this year ends with a _____.