

# Running from God

## Jonah 1:1-3

We are to obey God's call to preach the Gospel to unbelievers, because His compassion extends to all people.

### God's commission to Jonah, 1:1,2

*God is holy and therefore hates sin*

*God is merciful and therefore loves sinners*

*God sends His people to preach and prevent judgment*

### Jonah's rebellion against God, 1:3

*Our sin is always unreasonable*

*All attempts to flee from God are futile*

*Beware of misreading "open door" circumstances*

Questions to ask yourself:

How do I view God's Word?

How do I view my circumstances?

How do I view unbelievers, especially violent ones?

Will I run from the Lord or to the lost?

## *Tabletalk Questions*

For 7-25-10 sermon

"Running from God" Jonah 1:1-3

How do we know that Jonah was a real person, and that his story is not merely a parable or allegorical (2 Kin.14:25; Matt.12:38-41)?

What was the commission of the Lord to Jonah, and what was its motivation (1:1,2)? What do we learn here about God's heart?

What was Jonah's response to the Lord's commission, and what was his motivation (1:3; 4:2)? What do we learn here about our own hearts?

Have you ever been tempted to run from God's call on your life? Even if you could run away from God (see Ps.139:7-12) where would you go and what would you do (John 6:66-69)?

When has it been hard for you to yield your will to God's will? What was most difficult about that experience? What did you learn from it?