

Sermon Notes for January 21, 2018

Focus: Book of Jonah. Loving those who you really, really want to hate. The reading today is Jonah 3:1-5, 10

All Lectionary readings http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearB_RCL/Epiphany/BEpi3_RCL.html

There is a video to go with this cartoon. The video is really excellent and I highly recommend you watch it. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLlabZc0O4c>
 This resource was produced by the Bible project. It makes me jealous that they are such good, clear teachers. There is a trigger warning for this sermon. There will be the use of strong language not suitable for all audiences. Not four letter words. It's worse - **Politics**, but just a touch.

Happy Mid-Epiphany Season. Pastor Todd

UNIQUE AMONG the PROPHETS:

WORDS OF A PROPHET: "Thus says the Lord..."

VS.

STORY ABOUT A PROPHET

JONAH'S ONE OTHER APPEARANCE in the OLD TESTAMENT:

GOD'S FAVOR IS WITH YOU!

NO! GOD'S JUSTICE IS AGAINST YOU!

JEROBAM II (REALLY BAD KING)

JONAH (2 KINGS 14:23-25)

AMOS (6:13-14)

PROPHET WHO REBELS

PAGAN SAILORS WHO REPENT

JONAH

THE SUBVERSIVE STORY OF A REBELLIOUS PROPHET WHO HATES GOD FOR LOVING HIS ENEMIES

DISTINCT NARRATIVE STYLE:

Satire

EXTRAPOLATED CIRCUMSTANCES

HUMOR AND IRONY

POWERFUL KING WHO HUMBLER HIMSELF

EVEN COWS REPENT!

THIS BOOK IS TRYING TO MESS WITH YOU:

ARE YOU OKAY WITH GOD LOVING YOUR ENEMIES?

AREN'T YOU GLAD GOD LOVES HIS ENEMIES?

1 JONAH AND THE SAILORS

GO TO NINEVEH AND PREACH AGAINST ITS EVIL. (1:2)

TARSHISH

NINEVEH

WHY DOES HE RUN...??

CALL YOUR GOD!

I WORSHIP THE HOARD WHO MADE THE SEA AND THE LAND...

IS GOD! DON'T LET ME BLEED BE ON OUR HANDS!

THIS SHOULD WORK...

2 JONAH'S 1ST PRAYER OF REPENTANCE (...SORT OF)

THIS MEANS CERTAIN DEATH!

NEVER TECHNICALLY REPENTS, BUT... THANKS GOD FOR NOT ABANDONING HIM AND... PROMISES TO OBEY FROM THIS POINT ON.

GOD'S DIVINE RESOLVE

BLECH!

3 JONAH AND THE NINEVITES

GO TO NINEVEH AND PREACH WHAT I TELL YOU. (3:2)

NINEVEH

MORE NINEVEH

A SHORT, ODD SERMON no mention of:

- * NINEVEH'S SIN
- * HOW TO RESPOND
- * GOD!

NEVERTHELESS...

FORGIVE US, OH GOD!!!

FORNITY MORE DAYS AND NINEVEH SHALL BE OVERTURNED!

IS THIS PROPHETIC SABOTAGE???

JONAH'S MEANING: "OVERTHROWN" "DESTROYED" (SEE GENESIS 19:21)

WHAT HAPPENED: "TRANSFORMED" "CHANGED" (SEE 1 SAMUEL 10:6)

OVERTURNED

HERE'S WHY HE RAN:

I KNEW YOU ARE COMPASSIONATE AND LOVE TO FORGIVE! (EXODUS 34:6)

JUST KILL ME NOW...

JONAH, IS YOUR ANGER JUSTIFIED? (4:4,9)

YES, JUST LET ME DIE...

AREN'T HUMANS MORE VALUABLE THAN VINES?

SHOULDN'T I BE CONCERNED ABOUT NINEVEH, THAT GREAT CITY?

THE END.

4 JONAH'S 2ND PRAYER A CRITICISM OF GOD'S MERCY