

OUTRUNNING GOD

Scripture Reading: Jonah 1:1-3

Introduction:

1. Briefly discussing Jonah's displeasure with his mission.
2. One can never outrun God!
3. In this lesson we will examine three qualities of God we can never outrun. We cannot out run...

I. THE PRESENCE OF GOD

A. EXAMPLE OF JONAH

1. God commissioned him to go preach to Nineveh.
2. This was a job he did not want therefore, he fled to Tarshish.

B. OUTRUNNING GOD TODAY

1. Some attempt to outrun God by denying His existence –Note: Ps 14:1, 53:1
2. God has left us with great evidence –Ro 1:20, 21; Ps 19:1; 139:13-16

II. THE PURPOSE OF GOD

A. EXAMPLE OF JONAH

1. His purpose was to preach repentance so the people of the city could be saved.
2. Because the wickedness of the Gentile city, Jonah wanted them destroyed –Jonah 4:1-3

B. OUTRUNNING GOD TODAY

1. Let someone else handle it
2. Others are more talented / qualified than me, therefore I am excused. –Mt 25:14-ff
3. In some cases, "I don't want to be in heaven if they are going to be there!"

III. THE PERSISTENCE OF GOD

A. EXAMPLE OF JONAH

1. God had a great desire to extend repentance to Nineveh –Jonah 4:4-
2. God was unwilling to let Jonah run away –Jonah 2

B. OUTRUNNING GOD TODAY

1. God desires all to be saved -2Pe 3:9
2. God's word will be preached! -2Ti 4:2; 1Co 9:16; Is 55:10, 11
 - a. Example of Ananias –Ac 9:10-16
 - b. Paul became a mighty soul-winner for the Lord
3. God's word is not chained -2Ti 2:9; Ph 1:12-18

Conclusion:

1. If one is trying to outrun the presence, purpose, or the persistence of God, he needs to examine why?
2. There is no greater place to be than in the presence of God both now and forever!