

Remnant Life Church
June 30, 2012
Jonah 1

Light in Your Dark Place

- The Bible is broken down into 10 groupings
 - 5 OT groups – 39 books
 - The Law – first 5 – The Pentateuch
 - History – next 12 Joshua through Esther
 - Poetry – 5 – Job through Song of Solomon
 - Major Prophets – 5 – Isaiah through Daniel
 - Minor Prophets – 12 – Hosea through Malachi
 - 5 NT groups – 27 books
 - Gospels – first 4 – Matthew through John
 - History – Acts (church)
 - Paul's letters to churches – 9 – Romans through 2 Thess
 - Paul's letters to friends – 4 – I Tim through Philemon
 - General letters – 9 – Hebrews through Revelation
 - Some place Revelation separately under a heading of prophesy
 - 66 total books
 - Numbers in the Bible are very important
 - New age numerology was stolen and perverted by Satan
 - God had it first
 - 2 sixes equals 12
 - 12 is the number of governmental perfection (the church) for both the old and the new covenant
 - Under the old it comes through the 12 founding nations for the church of Israel (sons of Jacob)
 - Under the new it is the 12 founding fathers of the NT church – disciples
 - God's Word is the guide and light for the church
- Jonah – is one of the 12 minor prophets
 - Not minor (or major) in terms of importance but simply by its length of writing
- **Read and recan Jonah's story**

- Nineveh is located in Iraq
 - Nineveh – 3 to 4 square miles; 120,000 people
 - Iraq is mentioned more than any other country in the Bible other than Israel
 - Most likely founded by Nimrod the first great warrior/hunter – Great-grandson of Noah
 - Elamites (Elam; Grandson of Noah), Medes, Persians, Babylonians, and the Assyrians
 - Region of Mesopotamia
 - Garden of Eden; Abraham; Noah; Daniel (den)
 - Pishon, Gihon, Tigris, Euphrates rivers
 - Tarshish on the west coast of Spain
 - When again do you see Tarshish in the Bible
 - Saul (Paul's) birthplace
- Jonah's life was plunged into total darkness
 - The definition of physical darkness is the absence of light
 - The definition of emotional darkness is the absence of hope
 - The definition of spiritual darkness is the unwillingness of a person to obey God
 - What put Jonah into his darkness?

(Many of the same things that put us there today)

 - Disobedience
 - Thoughts (determination)
 - Actions
 - Belief that he could outrun God
 - Omnipresent means everywhere at once
 - Not only God's presence but His love is everywhere
 - Jonah came out of darkness in the fish and back into the light of God
 - Sometimes we need to endure a difficult event in order to come back into the light – (Jonah 2:10)
 - God is ALWAYS ready to give us another opportunity
 - Jonah 3:1
 - Matthew 18:14 *...not willing that anyone should perish*
 - How can we come into God's light out of darkness
 - **Humble ourselves before God**

- Pride is our belief that we do not need God
- **Prov. 15:25** *God tears down the house of the proud...*
- **Matt. 11:29** – rest in the humble heart
- **Choose to live in the light**
 - Jesus is talking with and teaching Nicodemus
 - **John 3:19-21** - *This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God*
- **Live a life that honors God**
 - Not just what we say but what we do
 - Not only when we are with others
 - Please Him because we love Him
 - **John 14:21** - *Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.*
- **Have faith that He is true to His word**
 - **Ps. 119:105** - *Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.*
 - **Duet. 31:8** - *The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*

1. Do not ignore the things that might be keeping you in darkness
2. Pray and seek Godly counsel
3. Give God the glory when He answers your prayer