

Unit 3: Fulfilling Our Obligations to God and Society

Lesson 9

May 3, 2026

Subject: Christian Expectation of Grace

Devotional Reading: Revelation 5:1-5

Background Scripture: Jonah 1:1-4:11; Galatians 3:1-13

Lesson Scripture: Jonah 3:1-5; 4:6-11

Memory Verse: The LORD said, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?" Jonah 4:10-11a (NIV)

Lesson Aim: To analyze Jonah’s reason for his anger and see how God provides His loving grace and mercy in the redemption of all people.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY OUTLINE

I. JONAH’S PREACHING: JONAH 3:1-4

1. What did the Lord give Jonah a second chance to do? What did Jonah do the first time? What was the consequence? Jonah 3:1-2; Jonah 1:3-4 ["Jonah the prophet lived and was active in the 8th century BCE, specifically around 785–760 BCE. He served during the reign of King Jeroboam II of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. (2 Kings 14:25. He was from Gath-hepher, a town near Nazareth in Galilee.)]
2. Locate Nineveh on an Old Testament map. In what modern-day country is Nineveh located? See Page 3.
3. In what ways may we describe God as "the God of Second Chances?" Lamentations 3:22-23; Joel 2:13; 2 Peter 3:9
4. What was Jonah only to preach? What should we learn from this? Jonah 3:2b
5. Why is preaching important? Romans 10:13-15
6. What do you think was on Jonah’s mind when God commanded him a second time to go and preach to the people of Nineveh?
7. What was Jonah’s response the second time he was instructed to go to Nineveh? Jonah 3:3a
8. How do the Scriptures describe Nineveh during the time of Jonah? Jonah 1:2; 3:2, 3b  
 vv. 1:2a; 3:2a \_\_\_\_\_  
 v. 1:2c \_\_\_\_\_  
 v. 3:3b \_\_\_\_\_
9. How does the Bible describe the travel distance to Nineveh? Jonah 3:3c
10. What did Jonah do his first day in Nineveh? Jonah 3:4a
11. What grace period was given the Ninevites to repent? Jonah 3:4b
12. What was God’s message of judgment against the city of Nineveh? Jonah 3:4c
13. Why does God give humanity a grace period to repent? 2 Peter 3:9
14. Define "repentance." Key words: change, turn away, return, (produce fruit of repentance-Matthew 3:8).

II. NINEVEH’S REPENTANCE: JONAH 3:5-10

15. How did the Ninevites respond to Jonah’s preaching? Jonah 3:5a
16. How extensive was the revival in Nineveh? Jonah 3:5b

17. What was the first (personal) act of the king of Nineveh to show he was a part of the spiritual revival? Why do you think this was important? Jonah 3:6
18. What physical acts did the Ninevites perform to demonstrate their spiritual repentance? Jonah 3:5b, 6
19. What was the second (national) act of the king of Nineveh during the spiritual revival? Jonah 3:7ab
20. What were the details of the decree of the king of Nineveh? Jonah 3:7c-8
- v. 7c \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 8a \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 8b \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 8c \_\_\_\_\_
21. Why did the king of Nineveh send the proclamation to his people? Jonah 3:9
- v. 9a \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 9b \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 9c \_\_\_\_\_
22. What was God's response to the Ninevites' repentance? Jonah 3:10
- v. 10a \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 10b \_\_\_\_\_
23. How does God help us to repent? What does this reveal about God's character?
- Romans 2:4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Peter 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- III. JONAH'S POUTING ANGER AND GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY (JONAH 4:1-11)
24. What was Jonah's reaction to God's pardon of the Ninevites? Jonah 4:1
25. Why do you think Jonah hated and despised the Ninevites and wished their destruction? Discuss. Jonah 1:2 (Nineveh was a ruthless and warlike people, known for fierce treatment of its enemies. Nineveh was threatening Israel. Assyria would eventually defeat the Northern Kingdom of Israel.)
26. What did Jonah do when he thought God was going to spare Nineveh? Jonah 4:2a
27. Why had Jonah disobeyed God the first time and fled from Him? Jonah 4:2bc
28. Even though Jonah was displeased that the Ninevites were forgiven, how did he rightly characterize God in five ways? Jonah 4:2defgh
- v. 2d \_\_\_\_\_ v. 2e \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 2f \_\_\_\_\_ v. 2g \_\_\_\_\_
- v. 2h \_\_\_\_\_
29. What did Jonah wish for because of his displeasure in God's decision to forgive the Ninevites? Jonah 4:3
30. How did God respond to Jonah's pouting and disappointment? Jonah 4:4
31. What do you think God was trying to get Jonah to realize? What must we all realize? Romans 3:9, 23

32. What did Jonah do after communicating with God through prayer? Jonah 4:5
33. What do you think Jonah was still hoping to see even though God had forgiven Nineveh? (In football terms, Jonah took a seat at the 50-yard line.)
34. How did God show mercy toward Jonah as he waited, hoping to see the demise of Nineveh? Jonah 4:6
35. What did God do to stimulate Jonah to think about his attitude and actions? Jonah 4:7-8a
36. What was Jonah's wish after the incidents in verses 7-8? Jonah 4:8b
37. What was God's question to Jonah because of his attitude? What did God want him to realize? Jonah 4:9a
38. How did Jonah answer God in his anger and disappointment? Jonah 4:9b
39. What was Jonah more concerned about than the people of Nineveh? Jonah 4:10
40. How do we sometimes put things before people?
41. What did God want Jonah to learn about His divine nature? Jonah 4:11a
42. How did God express that even though the people of Nineveh were spiritual immature (ignorant), they were still yet worth saving? Jonah 4:11b

### MAP OF NINEVEH (BIBLICAL AND MODERN TIMES)



Jonah was headed 2,500 miles the wrong way:



Current World's Conflict in the same region:

