

HERE COMES THE WORD

TODAY'S QUESTION: Will you welcome the Word of the Lord today?

SERIES QUESTION: Why me?

SERIES THEME: To discover, understand, and be confident in our God-given purpose for life

My God-given purpose is _____!

TODAY'S KEY VERSE: Jonah 1:1 -- "'The Word of the Lord came to Jonah..."

TODAY'S THEME: When the Word of the Lord comes to us we have found our God-given purpose in life

- > But life doesn't stand still! Life _____. Life is active.
- > In the same way the Word of God doesn't stand still! The Word of the Lord is living, _____ and active!
 - Hebrews 4:12

▶ The Word comes because _____ comes to us!

TODAY'S TEXT: Jonah 1+

I. THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ...

A. "THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JONAH"

- > We don't know much about Jonah.
 -
 -
 -
- > But we do know the most _____ thing about him!
 - Jonah had heard, believed and spoken the Word!
 - II Kings 14:21, 22

▶ "There was no one to help them" but then the Word of the Lord had come to Jonah!

- The Word brought the _____ of God.
- The Word brought Jonah a God-given _____.

Question → What is the most important thing that can be said about us?

B. THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO _____

- > This is the most important thing about you!
- > When Jesus came the Word came!
 - John 1:1,14
- > The Word comes to us when the _____ comes to us.
 - John 20:31
 - I John 5:11-13
 - Romans 10:8, 9, 13, 17

Question → Why are you here today? What is the most important thing about you?

ANSWER → The Word came to me _____ and I was saved!

TODAY'S QUESTION: Will you welcome the Word of the Lord today?

II. THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME BUT ...

▶ The Word of the Lord continues to move!

A. "BUT JONAH RAN AWAY FROM THE LORD..." vv. 1 & 3

> Jonah's _____ was that the Lord was still speaking.

- ▶ The Word that had been so comforting was now making him very _____!
- The Lord had a message for Jonah's enemies.

Question → Who or what is your Nineveh?

> Jonah's solution was to embark on an impossible voyage!

Question → Why Tarshish?

Answer → It wasn't _____!

- It was a place of escape -- an illusion.
- It was a way out of his pain, fear, anger, bitterness.
- It was a _____ place from life's reality and responsibilities.
- It was a refuge from the word of God.

The Jonah Question → Once the Word has come, where can you run?

- Psalm 139:7, 23

B. THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME BUT I _____

Question → Do you have a Tarshish? Where are you tempted to go to escape from the presence of God?

▶ To run from the _____ is to run from our God-given purpose in this _____.

> When the storm came Jonah was snoring in the bottom of the boat!

Question → Where are the people of the Word when the winds are raging?
Where is the Church when the storms of life hit?

▶ The world is screaming to us from the storm.
• 1:6ff

CONCLUSION:

The story of Jonah is not about Jonah ... THIS IS THE STORY OF GOD!

- > Our loving Lord who's Word just keeps coming to us!
- > Look at 3:1.

TODAY'S QUESTION: Will you welcome the Word of the Lord again?