

THE CONTRAST OF COMPASSION

Jonah 3-4 Jeff Schreve

Then the LORD said, "You had compassion [to pity, to regard, to spare] on the plant for which you did not work, and which you did not cause to grow, which came up overnight and perished overnight. And should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?" Jonah 4:10-11

Have you ever felt as if your compassion exceeded God's?

1. God shows His compassion by giving second chances.

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time Jonah 3:1

- A. Second chances are totally undeserved.
- B. Second chances indicate that God is not through with you.

2. God shows His compassion by responding to repentance.

- A. God doesn't want to judge, He wants to save.
"For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord GOD. "Therefore, repent and live." Ezekiel 18:32

- B. God will save anyone who will genuinely repent.
When God saw their deeds, that they turned from their wicked way, then God relented concerning the calamity which He had declared He would bring upon them. And He did not do it. Jonah 3:10

"The men of Nineveh shall stand up with this generation at the judgment, and shall condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here." Matthew 12:41

3. God shows His compassion by teaching us with patience.

- A. Our priorities are so warped and twisted.
- B. God wants His people to have a heart for people.

What needs to change in your heart toward God and man?