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Preached by Dr. L.D.Kramer at
Rejoice Christian Center

"THE CHALLENGE OF THE GREATEST SUPER BOWL"

THE MAN THAT CAME BACK FROM HELL AND STARTED A REVIVAL

Text: "Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly", Jonah 2:1

Introduction: (If God said, "Jonah swallowed the fish" I would believe it)

I. JONAH RUNNING FROM GOD – Ch 1

"Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me".

He had a Divine call from God vs.1.2

He ran from the call. (He should have read Psa. 139:7-12

He found a ship waiting. vs.3

It cost him. He paid the fare. Vs.3

He went down—

A. To Joppa.

B. Into the ship.

C. To the sleeping room.) Sampson, Peter, Saul, Tares.

Into the Fish.

II. JONAH RUNNING TO GOD-- Ch. 2

"Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, 2 And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice".

1. Jonah prayed vs. 2:1

2. He remembered God vs.7

3. He promised to pay his vows vs. 9

4. He realized salvation is of God vs.9

III. JONAH RUNNING WITH GOD –Ch 3

"And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee".

1. The Word of the Lord came unto him the second time vs.3

2. Jonah went for God . vs.3

3. He went three days journey in one. vs. 3-4

4. His message. vs.4

A. They believed God . vs 5

B. They repented from white house to poorhouse.

C. The proclaimed a fast for man and beast vs.7

D. The turned from their evil vs.8

IV. JONAH RUNNING AHEAD OF GOD Ch. 4

"But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

2 And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

3 Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live".

1. He wanted to die. Vs.3

2. Jonah pouted vs.5

3. God taught Jonah a lesson with:

A. Fish. B. Gourd C. Worm. D. East wind

THE MAN IN THE GLASS

When you get what you want
In your struggle for self,
And the world makes you King for a day.
Just go to a mirror and look at yourself,
And see what that man has to say.
For it isn't your Father or Mother or Wife
Whose judgement upon you must pass,
The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the one staring back from the glass.
Some people might think
You're a straight-shootin' chum
And call you a wonderful guy,
But the man in the glass says you're only a bum
If you can't look him straight in the eye.
He's the fellow to please,
Never mind all the rest
For he's with you clear to The End .
And you've passed your most dangerous test,
If the guy in the glass is you Friend,
You may fool the whole World
Down the pathway of years,
And get 'pats on the back' as you pass...
But, your Final Reward will be Heartaches and Tears
If you've cheated the man in the glass.
Author Unknown

At the Foot of the Cross
Fearing the battle was over
And I'd already lost the war,
I was tired of trying and failing.
I just couldn't fight anymore.

So, dragging my battle-scarred body,
I crawled to the foot of the cross.
And I sobbed. "Oh please, Father forgive me.
But I tried... I tried... and still lost."

Then the air grew silent around me.
I heard his voice just as clear as the dawn:
"Oh, My child, though you are tired and weary,
You can't stop, you have to go on."

At the foot of the Cross, where I met Him,
At the foot of the Cross, where He died,
I felt love, as I knelt in His presence.
I felt hope, as I looked in His eyes.

Then He gathered me lovingly to Him,
As around us God's light clearly shone.
And together we walked through my lifetime
To heal every wound I had known.

I found bits of my dreams, long forgotten,
And pieces of my life on the floor.
But I watched as He tenderly blessed them,
And my life was worth living once more.

I knew then why I had been losing.
I knew why I had not grown.
At the foot of the Cross came the answer:
I'd been fighting the battle alone.

At the foot of the Cross, where I met Him,
At the foot of the Cross, where He died,
Then I knew I could face any challenge
Together--just my Lord and I.
by Marcia Krugh Leaser