Jonah 1:4-16

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

- 1. "A god exists who created and ordered the world and watches over human life on earth."
- 2. "God wants people to be good, nice, and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and by most world religions."
- 3. "The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about ones self."
- 4. "God does not need to be particularly involved in one's life except when God is needed to resolve a problem."
- 5. "Good people go to heaven when they die."

God is Sovereign

"Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases." (Psalm 115:3)

"The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord." (Proverbs 16:33)

"And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, 'Save us, Lord; we are perishing.' And he said to them, 'Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?' Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, 'What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?'" (Matthew 8:23–27)

God is Just

"Behold, the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. The anger of the Lord will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly." (Jeremiah 23:19–20)

"Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness." (1 John 3:4)

"And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." (Hebrews 9:27)

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

God Wants Worshipful Obedience

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8–9)

Notes

Discuss

- How do the Gentile sailors provide a positive example of how to respond to God, and how can you follow their example?
- What about this part of the story of Jonah points you to Jesus?
- Why do people react negatively to the sovereignty and justice of God, and why do you think those characteristics of God are good, despite what some may say?

Read

Acts 27:1–44; 2 Peter 3:1–13

Pray

- Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you to remember the reality of the coming just judgment of God.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you to think rightly about God and live in a way consistent with who he is.

Announcements

- VBS Volunteers Needed: Talk to Alisha Corbet
- Children's Ministries Volunteers (Sunday worship service and Sunday school) Needed: Talk to Dawn McHargue
- CHOICES Life Resource Center