

Thank God for Second Chances

Jonah 3:1-5

I. God Often Gives Us Second Chances. (vv.1-2)

Jonah 1:1-2

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.”

Jonah 3:1-2

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying,

“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.”

“God forgets, and never holds the thing against you. Think of how wonderful are the implications of that one fact for your life. God simply does not hold grudges against people who humble themselves and ask his forgiveness through Jesus Christ.”

- O. Palmer Robertson

Our Heavenly Father has a track record of giving His people 2nd chances:

- Abraham

‘Go out from your land and from your kindred and go into the land that I will show you.’ (Acts 7:3)

... they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. (Gen.11:31)

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation. . . . So Abram went, as the Lord had told him (Gen.12:1-2, 4).

Our Heavenly Father has a track record of giving His people 2nd chances:

- Abraham
- Peter

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- Abraham
- Peter (John 21:15-17)

Our Heavenly Father has a track record of giving His people 2nd chances:

- Abraham
- Peter
- Jonah

*So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh,
according to the word of the Lord. (3:3)*

“We should never dismiss God's call or delay in responding to him. God . . . does not guarantee a second chance. . . . Sin and disobedience have consequences, and it is possible to miss God's best when we refuse His plan or attempt to run from his presence like Jonah.”

- Danny Akin

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

II. God Sometimes Blesses Our Second Chances with Great Success (vv.3-5).

*And the people of Nineveh believed
God. They called for a fast and put on
sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the
least of them. (v.5)*

“Many of us do not expect to see mighty works of God, looking at things as we often do from a strictly human perspective. So we do not expect to see our witness blessed with the salvation of a neighbor or friend. . . .”

- Richard Phillips

"The will of God will never lead you
where the grace of God can't keep you and
the power of God can't use you."

- Warren Wiersbe

*And the people of Nineveh believed
God. (v.5)*