

Our Father and Our God

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is November the 29th of 2023 and this is part 7 of our ongoing series, Our Father and Our God. At the end of part 6, I suggested that folks have a read of Isaiah 53, and they might find that an interesting exercise to perform.

0:00:25

I'd like to walk though that so that perhaps we can look at it in a new way, because it shows us much. Things I had not focused on before and perhaps all of you have, and I'm just really late to the party, so please bear with me if you would.

0.00.44

In the past, at least for me, things were very much Christ focused and not Father focused. So, sometimes the obvious was simply just overlooked. It was a classic, look here and don't look there, diversion.

0:01:04

Since it is always a good idea to read some verses before a section and after for that matter, let's begin by looking at Isaiah 52, verses 9 – 15. So, let's begin with that where it says:

⁹Break forth into joy, sing together, you waste places of Jerusalem! For Yehovah has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰Yehovah has made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

0:01:37

So, here we see that Yehovah and God are used interchangeably. That would be the supreme being.

¹¹Depart! Depart! Go out from there, touch no unclean thing; go out from the midst of her, be clean, you who bear the vessels of Yehovah. ¹²For you shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight; for Yehovah will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard. ¹³Behold, My Servant

0:02:06

And Servant is capitalized.

shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.

So, here we have a case where Yehovah, our Father and our God is talking about His Servant. So, in the Father's eyes, Christ is His Servant.

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0:02:31

And:

¹⁴Just as many were astonished at you, so His visage was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men;

And we know the trials that Christ went through. So, there is no mistake in this passage of who it is actually talking about.

0:02:51

One of the things I so appreciate out of Mark Mickelson's work is, when you see both of those Beings in same text, then there is no mistaking who is who. That's a very powerful tool and I would encourage you, as you walk through and do your own bible study, when you see both the Father and the Son mentioned in the same text, take special note of that and see where it leads you.

0:03:15

Going on:

¹⁵so shall He (The Messiah) sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; for what had not been told them they shall see, and what they had not heard they shall consider.

0:03:29

So, Lord here in the passage, is the Father and because Christ is referenced here, there shouldn't be any case of mistaken identity. Notice again, that in Yehovah's eyes, Christ is His Servant. The Trinity and the Binity concept seek to hide that, and it does an awfully good job of that.

0:03:57

I was surprised when talking to a Protestant minister, that it doesn't matter what the scriptures say, the default position is the Trinity, even though the Bible screams that that is not the case.

0:04:12

This isn't a one off where Christ is referred to as God's Servant. If we go back to Isaiah 42 and let's take a look at verse 1.

¹"Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

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So, there is no question that is speaking of Christ directly. And again, we see that Yehovah refers to Him as My Servant. And again, in Yehovah's eyes, Christ is His Servant, and in places referred to as His Righteous Servant, which we will see.

0:05:00

If we sneak over into the New Testament, into Matthew 12, we'll go to Matthew 12 and we are going to see a confirmation of this Servant identity in the passage in Matthew 12. And we will read verses 15 – 21; Matthew 12, verses 15 - 21.

¹⁵But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there.

0:05:33

The Pharisees were trying to kill him.

And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. ¹⁶Yet He warned them not to make Him known, ¹⁷that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

Which we just read.

¹⁸Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, and He will declare justice to the Gentiles. ¹⁹He will not quarrel nor cry out, nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets. ²⁰A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench, till He sends forth justice to victory; ²¹and in His name Gentiles will trust."

0:06:19

So, we can see there, exactly who that is. This alone, should nullify the co-equal, co-eternal concept, which is the foundation of the Binity or the Trinity. Christ is not a co-equal, He is the Servant of the Most High. And Christ has always been Yehovah's Servant. In Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8 tell us, that neither the Father nor the Son change. And has always been His Son as the first-born as we're shown in Colossians 1:15.

0:07:12

Isaiah 42:1 is Yehovah speaking of his Servant through Isaiah the prophet. We can go see this again. I want to make sure this is not a one off of any kind, where we can go to Isaiah 49 and we will read verses 5 – 7.

⁵And now Yehovah says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel is gathered to Him. (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of Yehovah, and My God shall be My strength),

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0:07:49

So, we can see here that this is God's Servant speaking through Isaiah the prophet and telling what he's been told by the Father.

⁶indeed He says, (The Father says) 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'"⁷ Thus says Yehovah, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, to Him whom man despises, to Him whom the nation abhors,

0:08:31

So, it's the Father speaking to the Son.

to the Servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of Yehovah who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel; (The Father) and He (The Father) has chosen You."

His Servant. Christ is the Father's Servant.

0:08:57

With that in mind, let's go to Isaiah 53 and look at this passage. And, it's common in our history to go through certain sections of Isaiah 53 to point Christ out, and indeed Christ is in the text. But we need to look a little bit further and step back from that myopic view and look at the entire text as we might.

0:09:21

Let's go on here in Isaiah 53.

¹ Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of Yehovah been revealed?

Well, if you look up the word arm, it's the Hebrew word H2220, and it means arm, shoulder or strength. Yehovah here is the Father from verse 2 on, and it's obviously referring to Christ.

0:09:52

So:

²For He (The Messiah) shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. ³He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from

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Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and Yehovah has laid on Him the Messiah, the Servant) the iniquity of us all.

0:11:00

So, we can see the Father acting here as the quarterback for the whole thing, and I can't believe that I just didn't pay any attention to that. I just didn't look at it for all those years, which to me is just quite amazing.

0:11:22

LORD here, is the Father, you can see that. Let's go on here in verse 7.

⁷He was oppressed and He was afflicted, (Obviously Christ) yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. ⁸He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people,

0:11:56

Obviously, the Father talking here.

He was stricken. ⁹And they made His grave with the wicked—but with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.

0:12:10

He was God's holy one.

¹⁰Yet it pleased Yehovah to bruise Him;

Now we need to stop to think about that. It pleased the Father to bruise Him.

He (The Father) has put Him to grief. When You (The Father) make His (The Messiah) soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of Yehovah shall prosper in His hand.

0:12:51

So, here we can see in the text, both the Father and His Servant. And it's not difficult to see that.

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¹¹He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied.

He was sent on a mission from the Father, which He completed as His Servant.

By His knowledge My righteous Servant

0:13:19

So, here we see it again, He was the Holy One, who was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities. ¹²Therefore I (The Father) will divide Him (The Messiah) a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

0:14:00

So, we can see by reading through Isaiah 53 the Father's direct involvement in the narrative. And speaking about Christ, and what He would do; and the Father will divide Him a portion with great and divide the spoil with the strong, because He completed and He fulfilled His task as we see in verse 12.

0:14:27

We can see a snapshot of exactly what He did in that particular passage. So, you know, when we step back from that and actually look at it to see how Christ was used by the Father, to make intercession for the transgressors and to bear the sin of many, it opens up our understanding to the mind of the Father and also the mind of His Servant, through whom He operated.

0:15:03

We really see, in verses 10 – 12, Yehovah's Servant through that passage. Remember, in the New Testament, Christ said, "Is there no other way?" And we just read what He went through. But as a human being, you know, that's not a real pleasant experience He went through. So, we look at Christ in Matthew 26, and we are going to read verses 31 – 44.

0:15:48

As a human being, or being made a human being, He had some obvious thoughts; I think all of us would have that. So, let's read Matthew 26, verses 31 – 44.

³¹Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd,

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Quoting Zechariah 13:7.

and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

0:16:22

So, this is the Father then, allowing His Servant, Christ, to be stricken and that the disciples, soon to be apostles, would simply be scattered because of that situation.

³²But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee." ³³Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble." ³⁴Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." ³⁵Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And so said all the disciples.

0:17:02

Well, they're all of the strong opinion that they could handle it.

³⁶Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." ³⁷And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. ³⁸Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

0:17:33

So, as a human, He had just this pall of things coming over Him as He knew what He was going to go through.

³⁹He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

0:18:02

This shows us that Christ had a will of His own and that He willingly subjected it to the will of the Father. Very important!

⁴⁰Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? ⁴¹Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

0:18:32

So, we can see that internal struggle that Christ had.

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⁴²Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." ⁴³And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

0:18:58

So, you can see, that as a human being and having a will of His own, what He was wrestling with, knowing what He would have to go through. And that, I think, is very, very interesting. He did have a will of His own. Well, I thought they were of one Spirit, didn't they have the same Spirit? Nope, they sure didn't.

0:19:28

Christ, did in fact, have a will of His own, different from the Father's, but that He subjected it to the same as the Father's will. That is, being a separate Being, with one's own will, but choosing to be at one with the Father, and His purpose. It is why Christ identified His brothers and sisters as those who do the will of the Father, all the while having their own will, as separate and distinct beings.

0:20:11

This will be the essence of being the Son of God when resurrected to Spirit. A separate and distinct Being, but your individual will, will be subjected to that of the Father. Isaiah 66, and verses 1 and 2 says:

¹ Thus says Yehovah: "Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? ²For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist," Says Yehovah.

He is the Creator.

"But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.

0:21:03

That would be the folks that submit their will to the will of the Father. The mental disposition or the spirit, one of the meanings of spirit, of a Son of God, or the Son of God is actually spoke of in Isaiah 11; Isaiah 11, verses 1 – 5. Isaiah 11, verses 1 – 5. What was the spirit of Christ all about? The whole idea that the Father and the Son are of the same spirit, same mental disposition, is simply not true.

0:21:56

Let's go to Isaiah 11, verses 1 - 5

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¹ *There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.*

Speaking of the coming physical birth of the Messiah.

²*The Spirit of Yehovah*

Again, we see both of them in the text here and we need to look at that and think it through.

²*The Spirit of Yehovah shall rest upon Him,*

0:22:21

So, the Spirit of the Father, the Creator, will rest upon Him. Well, what kind of a spirit did Christ actually have? The Father gave Him His Spirit, the way He thinks, the bank of information the Father had. So, He gave Christ...

the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,

0:22:48

We looked at how God can arbitrarily just put that into anybody He wants.

the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge

Those would be pretty useful tools to face Satan, ah, don't you think? And notice.

and of the fear of Yehovah.

0:23:16

The mental disposition of Christ contained wisdom, understanding, counsel, might and knowledge, but it also contained an attitude of the fear of Yehovah, exactly as we read in Isaiah 66. And

³*His delight*

You know, His attitude.

His delight is in the fear of Yehovah, and He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, nor decide by the hearing of His ears; ⁴but with righteousness He shall judge the poor,

0:23:52

The Father set up Christ's Spirit so He knew exactly what He would do.

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He had total confidence in the mission that He sent Him on.

⁴but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist.

0:24:19

The Spirit of the Father and the Spirit of the Son are not the same. Yehovah has no fear of Yehovah. The Binity concept hides this. Yehovah has no fear of Himself. The Son does and it is the delight of the Son to be in the fear of Yehovah.

0:24:52

Does it make sense that additional Sons of God, when brought forth as Spirit Beings, will have a similar mindset to Christ? When, and if, we realize that Yehovah is our Father and that is His name, scripture comes alive in many ways that we may well have not have considered previously.

0:25:19

So, let's get back to our study of Job now that we understand a little bit more about the Father and the Son. And again, a heads up to everybody, when you are reading the Bible, if you are looking for the Father in the Old Testament, He's everywhere. And if you are looking for the Son in the Old Testament, look for the Servant, for that is in fact who He is.

0:25:45

We've gone along and we were in Job 40, verse 15. So, we'll pick it up there. The Father again speaking to Job. It says:

¹⁵"Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you; he eats grass like an ox.

0:26:14

We understand now a bit more as to how Yehovah creates; he sends forth His spirit and His breath and things actually begin to happen. And that's been a very powerful tool for me personally, to understand how He does that. And the scriptures, such as Revelation 4; Revelation 4 and verse 11 have really come alive, a quantum leap of understanding. Let's read that. Revelation 4:11 says:

¹¹"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You

This is the Father.

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created all things,

0:26:53

We now know how He does that.

and by Your will they exist and were created.”

The created begin as thoughts in the mind of the Creator. His spirit and His breath then flow from Him to create at any time. He can create or He can un-create. And all created are subject to the will of the Creator, the one true God.

0:27:29

So, we'll go on and we'll continue to read Job with this in mind. There's a force that flows from the Father, we see as His spirit and His breath to build anything He wants at any time He wants for whatever purpose He wants. That's what Creators actually do.

(Job 40:16)

¹⁶See now, his strength is in his hips,

This is the behemoth.

and his power is in his stomach muscles. ¹⁷He moves his tail like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are tightly knit. ¹⁸His bones are like beams of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron. ¹⁹He is the first of the ways of God; only He who made him can bring near His sword.

0:28:14

An incredibly powerful being, or beast.

²⁰Surely the mountains yield food for him, and all the beasts of the field play there. ²¹He lies under the lotus trees, in a covert of reeds and marsh. ²²The lotus trees cover him with their shade; the willows by the brook surround him. ²³Indeed the river may rage, yet he is not disturbed; he is confident, though the Jordan gushes into his mouth, ²⁴though he takes it in his eyes, or one pierces his nose with a snare.

0:28:43

An incredibly powerful being that the Father built with a thought, and then proceeded to make such a beast. Going on. And you notice there is an increasing level of God's capacity and His ability where we move from the behemoth to the Leviathan.

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¹ “Can you draw out Leviathan with a hook, or snare his tongue with a line which you lower? ²Can you put a reed through his nose, or pierce his jaw with a hook? ³Will he make many supplications to you? Will he speak softly to you? ⁴Will he make a covenant with you? Will you take him as a servant forever? ⁵Will you play with him as with a bird, or will you leash him for your maidens? ⁶Will your companions make a banquet of him? Will they apportion him among the merchants? ⁷Can you fill his skin with harpoons, or his head with fishing spears? ⁸Lay your hand on him; remember the battle—never do it again! ⁹Indeed, any hope of overcoming him is false; shall one not be overwhelmed at the sight of him? ¹⁰No one is so fierce that he would dare stir him up. Who then is able to stand against Me?

0:30:12

The one who makes him is so much further, in terms of power, than the one who is made.

¹¹Who has preceded Me, that I should pay him?

Well, who preceded the Father though? No one!

Everything under heaven is Mine. ¹²“I will not conceal his limbs, his mighty power, or his graceful proportions. ¹³Who can remove his outer coat? Who can approach him with a double bridle? ¹⁴Who can open the doors of his face, with his terrible teeth all around? ¹⁵His rows of scales are his pride, shut up tightly as with a seal; ¹⁶one is so near another that no air can come between them; ¹⁷they are joined one to another,

0:31:00

Well, who engineered this being. Well, it would be God the Father. Going on:

¹⁷they are joined one to another, they stick together and cannot be parted. ¹⁸His sneezings flash forth light, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning. ¹⁹Out of his mouth go burning lights; sparks of fire shoot out. ²⁰Smoke goes out of his nostrils, as from a boiling pot and burning rushes. ²¹His breath kindles coals, and a flame goes out of his mouth. ²²Strength dwells in his neck, and sorrow dances before him. ²³The folds of his flesh are joined together; they are firm on him and cannot be moved. ²⁴His heart is as hard as stone, even as hard as the lower millstone. ²⁵When he raises himself up, the mighty are afraid; because of his crashings they are beside themselves. ²⁶Though the sword reaches him, it cannot avail; nor does spear, dart, or javelin. ²⁷He regards iron as straw, and bronze as rotten wood. ²⁸The arrow cannot make him flee; sling stones become like stubble to him. ²⁹Darts are regarded as straw; he laughs at the threat of javelins. ³⁰His undersides are like sharp potsherds; he spreads pointed marks in the mire. ³¹He makes the deep boil like a pot; he makes the sea like a pot of

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ointment. ³²He leaves a shining wake behind him; one would think the deep had white hair. ³³On earth there is nothing like him, which is made without fear.

0:32:37

So, this beast, God didn't give it any fear at all.

³⁴He beholds every high thing; he is king over all the children of pride."

And some have used that, that this is an allegory for Satan himself and I couldn't fault that. But could God create a being exactly like that? Well, of course He could.

0:33:06

And Job finally came to that understanding. We'll read that, where He got to in Job 42, verses 1 – 6.

¹ Then Job answered Yehovah and said: ²"I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.

Do we actually get that?

³You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore, I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

0:33:45

You know, we all, I guess in our own way, think we actually know something and when we stack up against God Himself, our Creator, we don't make too big a ripple on the pond, regardless of what we think we know. And Job came to understand that.

⁴Listen, please, and let me speak; you said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.' ⁵"I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, "

0:34:16

You know, we hear about God.

but now my eye sees You.

He actually saw the space and the capability of his God up close and personal, and he was a bit overwhelmed by it.

⁶Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

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0:34:36

Job came to understand that God will make what He wants to, when He wants to, and then how He wants to, whenever He pleases to. As humans, although we might think otherwise, we really don't make too big a splash in the grand scheme of things.

0:34:54

Job came to understand where he fit in that grand scheme of things and it's likely a good idea that we consider doing the same. You know, we could see the footprints of God, Yehovah, our Creator now that we might know what to look for. And we are going to take a look at that in the little book of Jonah.

0:35:18

Where we can actually learn some things from Jonah. And it's not so much the story we're going to pay attention to, but actions and the capabilities of our Creator. When we know who Yehovah is, it does make a difference to our read. So, let's go on. (Jonah 1:1)

¹Now the word of Yehovah came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me.”

0:36:01

This is not Christ, this is Yehovah, our Father.

³But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

And I looked up the word “presence” just out of curiosity, because I really didn't know what that meant, because it's used several times. Panim (Paw-neem') is the Hebrew word, H6440, and it means the face of the Lord. So, however God chose to deliver that message to him, it's not clear in the text to me, but obviously He knew exactly what was going on.

0:36:39

He didn't like the idea of being the servant of God in that case.

He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so, he paid the fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of Yehovah.

0:36:58

He was getting out of Dodge.

⁴ But Yehovah sent out a great wind on the sea,

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So, is the Father able to interfere with, or make or use the processes of the earth to bring about a situation? Well, of course He is. He

sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up.

0:37:25

So, He turned up the dial to where things were getting serious.

⁵Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god,

So, obviously these people knew nothing of the true God, but they had a view of God in their minds.

and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep. ⁶So the captain came to him, and said to him, "What do you mean, sleeper? Arise, call on your God; perhaps your God will consider us, so that we may not perish."

0:38:04

So, you can imagine what's rolling around in the sailor's mind; this is pretty serious stuff.

⁷And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this trouble has come upon us."

And I got thinking, in today's society, if the weather just went all weird, would today's society even consider that God had a hand in it? And I'm thinking, no, no, I don't think so.

So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ Then they said to him, "Please tell us! For whose cause is this trouble upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹ So he said to them, "I am a Hebrew; and I fear Yehovah, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

0:38:58

So, Jonah had the understanding of who the Creator actually was.

¹⁰Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of Yehovah, because he had told them.

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0:39:17

Just imagine that, here you hop on the ship and you tell somebody that you are fleeing because God gave you an assignment to do and you're just getting out of town. How do you think the sailors of today would respond to such an individual? Like, put yourself in that situation.

0:39:37

Would they not think he's a nut case, I'm thinking?

¹¹Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?"—for the sea was growing more tempestuous. ¹²And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest is because of me."

0:40:02

He joined the dots, he had figured it out.

¹³Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to land, but they could not, for the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them. ¹⁴Therefore they cried out to Yehovah

0:40:25

There had been a transformation from verse 5 to verse 14, where God had obviously come into their thoughts and they understood who God really was.

they cried out to Yehovah and said, "We pray, O Yehovah, please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for You, O Yehovah, have done as it pleased You."

0:40:48

They were getting the picture.

¹⁵So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging.

Wouldn't that be a powerful sign to witness?

¹⁶Then the men feared Yehovah exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to Yehovah and took vows.

0:41:07

Well, I wonder what those vows would actually be, but again, you know, they see this great miracle. They see the capability of the God of the universe.

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0:41:21

¹Then Jonah prayed to Yehovah his God from the fish's belly.

The LORD had prepared, sorry I missed verse 17

¹⁷ Yehovah had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah.

Well, we now know how he did that, He simply created one, a very special fish.

And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

0:41:45

¹Then Jonah prayed to Yehovah his God from the fish's belly.

So, obviously he's still conscious, he's not dead. So, God made a special creature.

²And he said: "I cried out to Yehovah because of my affliction, and He answered me. "Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and You heard my voice. ³For You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the floods surrounded me; all Your billows and Your waves passed over me. ⁴Then I said, 'I have been cast out of Your sight; yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.' ⁵The waters surrounded me, even to my soul; the deep closed around me; weeds were wrapped around my head. ⁶I went down to the moorings of the mountains; the earth with its bars closed behind me forever; yet You have brought up my life from the pit, O Yehovah, my God. ⁷"When my soul fainted within me, I remembered Yehovah; and my prayer went up to You, into Your holy temple. ⁸"Those who regard worthless idols forsake their own Mercy.

0:42:53

Going into idolatry is a very bad thing for all of us. God is merciful to those who do not.

⁹But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of Yehovah."

0:43:13

So, he understood that. And here, salvation is referred to as being of the Father. So, here again, we see the capacity of God.

¹⁰So Yehovah spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Well, what human being would have such control to do that?

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0:43:37

¹Now the word of Yehovah came to Jonah the second time,

So, He repeats the message.

saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of Yehovah.

0:43:51

He got the message. He was going to be a servant of God now.

Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey in extent. ⁴And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day’s walk. Then he cried out and said, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.

0:44:22

What if somebody went into New York city, just as an example, and said something like that today. How do you think that would be received?

⁶Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes. ⁷And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water. But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God;

0:44:51

Can you imagine that happening today in one of our cities?

yes, let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

0:45:13

These guys actually believed it.

¹⁰Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

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0:45:24

So our Creator, when He delivers a message to us, pays attention to our response to it.

¹But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry. ²So he prayed to Yehovah, and said, "Ah, Yehovah, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore, I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, one who relents from doing harm. ³Therefore now, O Yehovah, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live!" ⁴Then Yehovah said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

0:46:11

So, He's paying specific attention to Jonah's mental disposition, his spirit, and throws some questions at him.

⁵So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city. ⁶And Yehovah (Elohim, the Father) prepared a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery.

0:46:44

We now know the process by which that occurred.

So, Jonah was very grateful for the plant. ⁷But as morning dawned the next day God (The Creator) prepared a worm, and it so damaged the plant that it withered.

You can see from God's perspective as the Creator, He does what He wants, when He wants, showing Jonah the space He occupies.

0:47:07

⁸And it happened, when the sun arose, that God prepared a vehement east wind;

So, again we see the capacity of the Creator. He brings about a violent east wind.

and the sun beat on Jonah's head, so that he grew faint. Then he wished death for himself, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹Then God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "It is right for me to be angry, even to death!"

So, we get a snapshot of what's rolling around in Jonah's head

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0:47:45

¹⁰But Yehovah said, "You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored,

God built it for him.

nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left—

The Father did not give them wisdom, He did not give them knowledge, He did not give them things that Christ was given and the Father said; They don't know their right hand from their left. It is because He made them that way, it is not in man to direct his steps.

0:48:33

And yet, here we see the Creator showing great mercy to these people when they repented of their situation. And asking Jonah, you know, should I, Jonah pitied the plant, should God not pity these people, who can't discern between their right hand from their left, situation in which He created them.

and much livestock.

0:49:05

So, when we read Jonah, we can see the actions of the Creator, Yehovah, doing these various things. Controlling the weather, working with the attitudes of the mariners, revealing Himself to them, building a plant, building a worm and you can see, how you and I, as human beings really make much of an imprint. And yet we are certainly going to in due course.

049:35

Well, is it within Yehovah's capacity then, to create a being who is uncorrupt and incorruptible? And you might want to go to Thesaurus.com and type in the word uncorrupt, because it is a bit of an education.

0:50:06

He made the angels corruptible, and He made man corruptible. Did He do so because He cannot make something incorruptible, like Himself? What about that? We'll look at that in part 8.