

Hunger For Truth

August 1, 2011



“Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

Proverbs 7:2

Matthew 5:6

John 8:32

II Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews 4:2

Special Interest Articles:

- “Five D’s” Part 4 - Displeased
- “Five D’s” Part 5 - Downfall
- What Makes a Christian Life in the “Children for Christ” column

Individual Highlights:

Greetings, Meditate on the Word	1
Meditate on the Word	2-3
Children For Christ	4
Quotes	4
Song of the Month	5
Praise & Prayer	5

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“Hunger For Truth” is a monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman who is a member of Community Baptist Church of Quakertown, PA where the Pastor is Dr. David Smith.



Greetings

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the latest issue of Hunger For Truth. We are approaching the final stretch of summer. It is hard to believe it is August already. Time indeed flies. How much of our time is spent with God?

In This Issue: you'll find more great devotionals from a dear

friend and brother in Christ Andrew Lacroix. You will find parts 4 & 5, the conclusion of “Five “D’s”. I hope this study has been a blessing to you.

See the “Special Interest Articles” section for just some of what you will see this month in the newsletter.

Also, please note that back issues of the newsletter are available to

view, print or save at www.studytoanswer.net.

The goal of this ministry and newsletter is to edify and encourage believers using the truth of God's precious Holy Word.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for me. I greatly appreciate your comments and I praise God for each and every one of you.

Meditate on The Word (Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:148)

Five “D’s” (Part 4) (By: Andrew Lacroix) (Text: Jonah 4:1-4)

Andrew D. Lacroix is a member of the Heritage Baptist Church in Norwood, MA (Pastor Steve Hathaway).

There are too many people in the world that are unhappy. They are unhappy with their lives, their finances, marriage, and so on. Same, sadly, is especially true for the born-again Christian. For some reason, we are miserable, not content, and downright displeased in our walk with the Lord.

Jonah might just be the most miserable prophet in the entire O.T. God has just wrought two miraculous deeds in the last two chapters and Jonah is angry? Nineveh and who knows how many countless souls are spared His impending judgment and Jonah of all people is the one who is **displeased**?

(Continued on Next Page)



Five “D’s” (Part 4 *continued*) (By: Andrew Lacroix)

Jonah has the wrong motive in his venture to the heathen Ninevites. He was unwilling to see any non-Jewish people spared, repentant or not. I believe he cared more for the men on the boat to Tarshish more than the people of Nineveh.

Jonah revealed to God why he wanted out of this whole Nineveh call. He knew very well they would end up repenting, believing God, and God being long-suffering and merciful, would turn away His anger. Jonah wanted judgment; God was not going to punish Nineveh at this time.

Therefore, if he was not going to see destruction of others’ lives, he wanted the destruction of his own life (v. 3). This is not the first prophet who desired death. The great prophet Elijah, one of only two men not to have seen death (Enoch, Genesis 5), was fleeing from Jezebel and also requested that the Lord take him home (I Kings 19:1-7). He ended up getting the strength to continue on and was whisked away into Glory in 2 Kings 2.

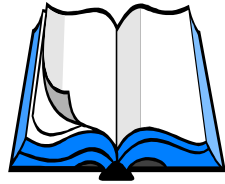
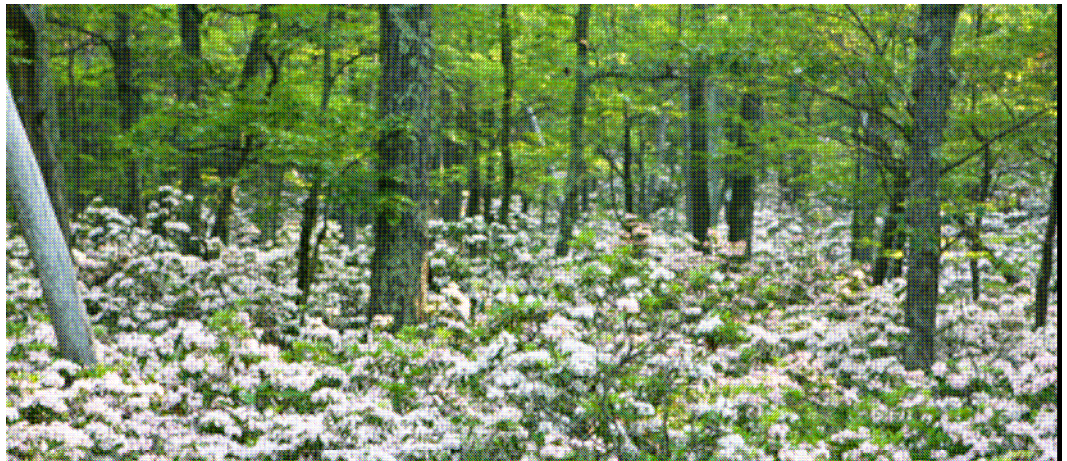
Jonah needed to learn something about how merciful the Lord is, and I believe he eventually learned that lesson. But did he have a right to be angry over the fact that Nineveh was spared?

We all once in a while have desired revenge of some sort. As a (sometimes) bitter sports fan, if my team gets eliminated in the playoffs, I want the team that beat them out as soon as possible. Some of us have had tragedies in our lives and lives taken because of the sin of others. In a moment of weakness and sorrow, sometimes we will have the sin of anger. It is okay to be angry as long as we don’t sin (Psalm 4:4, 37:8; Ephesians 4:26). We can allow God to deal with any possible outcomes. Maybe the one who sinned against will get saved. There is something about Jonah here that just sees him have no desire for the Ninevites to be spared.

Are we displeased or angry about things that do not mean much to God or us? Do we have a right reason for being angry? Doest thou well to be angry? I pray not.

-Andrew D. Lacroix

PA Mountain Laurel in beautiful and breathtaking full bloom



Matthew 5:6

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”

John 8:32

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

“There never can be a “bad” day when I realize that God is my strength, my shield and my song.”

(Psalm 28:7-8)

-Unknown



Five “D’s” (Part 5) (By: Andrew Lacroix) (Text: Jonah 4:5-7, 11)

So far we have looked at Jonah’s disobedience, Jonah’s deliverance, Jonah’s denouncement, and Jonah’s displeasure. I’d like us to see the last one: Jonah’s **downfall**.

God had to show Jonah something about his mercy following Jonah’s disappointment in God sparing Nineveh (3:10). He decides to show His tremendous mercy by preparing a gourd, or some sort of large area, to give Jonah some shade to rest in for a while. No doubt this part of the world gets very hot, and Jonah became overjoyed (albeit briefly) for the first time in his journey because of the relief of the gourd.

However, Jonah’s joy would not last. God prepared a worm to destroy the gourd, which He created. The worm destroys the gourd. In addition, God creates a vehement east wind. When that brutally hot sun beamed down upon His prophet, Jonah became weary, and again desired death (v.8).

First Jonah was angry over the lack of destruction. Now he was angry for the destruction of the only thing that gave him something back: a gourd that relieved him from the scorching heat.

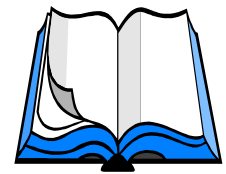
Jonah did no work in trying to get relief from the heat soon. God had spared him from the heat just like He had spared Nineveh from His wrath. When Jonah’s relief was taken away, he felt just like how he felt after the threat of destruction of the Ninevites was taken away. He was angry over things he had absolutely no control over.

God cares for every soul. He is “not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). This is why the gospel needs to be spread. Christ commanded exactly five times to preach the gospel. Jonah succeeded in one thing: getting God’s Word to those who needed to hear it.

I believe Jonah eventually does get right. It is not recorded in Scripture, but he gets right and continues on with his ministry. The cry of Nineveh being overthrown spares Israel from their impending takeover for over a century.

As we conclude our five points on the prophet Jonah, we have learned five valuable lessons:

1. God’s Will is always best, and disobedience will do nothing but get you in a lot of trouble with God. Trials can come from disobedience.
2. Even when we are disobedient, God always has a plan for us to get us out of trouble and back into His Will and fellowship. We must show a repentant cry for deliverance.
3. Our job is to warn others of their eternal future. Jonah’s was to warn Nineveh of God’s wrath. We need to be doing the same; for judgment is sooner than many will think (Hebrews 9:27)
4. Be angry for the right reasons, and strive to never get to the point where we are displeased for the wrong reasons.
5. Don’t let circumstances control you. There are a lot of events in which we simply must trust the Lord. What we can control, ask God to help and guide you. What we cannot control, let go and let God.



II Timothy 3:16-17

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Hebrews 4:12

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”



Quotes of The Month

(Source Unknown)

“They do not love Christ who love anything more than Christ.”

“To daily take up our cross enables one to experience the power of His cross!”

“Praying for God’s will causes us to focus on what the Lord deems important and needful in our lives.”

“If you are swept off your feet, it is time to get on your knees.”

“God’s expectations of His children are not hidden. He tells us exactly what we must do to please Him.”

“God, in mercy, will never allow His children to be comfortable in sin!”

“Such an infinite God we pray to. Surely we should rest in this awareness and be ashamed of our spirit of worry.”

☺ Children For Christ ☺ - “What Makes A Christian Life”

Memory Verse:

Acts 11:21 – “And the hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.”

1. Read Acts 11:19-26. We are told in the book of Acts that believers were first called Christians at Antioch. The word Christian is a word that identifies people to Christ. It means Christ-like. It identifies one’s belief and lifestyle. We are now going to begin a study on the practices that identify the Christian lifestyle.
2. Read Ps. 107:2. The first practice is W _____ G to people about Christ.
3. When we witness to others we need to tell them How He S _____ D you and How He helps you daily.
4. Read Amos 3:3. The second practice is a common and agreeable spirit. True False
5. A common and agreeable spirit is thinking in, or along, the same direction and agreement on the same direction. True False
6. Read Ps. 119:105. The 3rd practice is looking to the B _____ E as a standard.
7. The Bible is a standard for: A. Direction as we walk B. Guidance in our life C. Both A&B
8. Read Gal. 6:2. The 4th practice is a helping spirit towards O _____ S.
9. We need to have a helping spirit toward others: *(Check all that are correct)*
 For others and their difficulties prayerfully
 For others and their difficulties mundanely
 For Christ, who is the motivating reason
 For our selves and pleasing the flesh.
10. Read Heb. 10:25. The 5th practice is regularly going to C _____ H.
11. Regularly going to church: A. Follows the command of biblical principle B. Follows the example of biblical practice C. Both A&B
12. Do you regularly attend your local church? Yes No (If no, why? _____)
13. Receiving Christ saves you and is the first step to becoming a Christian. The second step is an identifying lifestyle. Are you saved (your position) and are you a Christian (your practice)? _____

National Heritage

“All confidence must be withheld from the means we use; and reposed only on that GOD who rules the Armies of Heaven, and without whose blessing the best human counsels are but foolishness – and all created power vanity.”

John Hancock, 1737-1793

Signer of the USA’s Declaration of Independence



Song of the Month – “My Father Planned it All”

This great old hymn of the faith has been sung in churches for many years. Do we ever consider the words to the song as we sing it? We need to see that whatever we are going through that He planned it all and it is designed for our good to bring us closer to Him.

What tho' the way be lonely, and dark the shadows fall; I know where'er it leadeth, my Father planned it all.

CHORUS: I sing through the shade and the sunshine, I'll trust Him whatever befall; I sing for I cannot be silent, my Father planned it all.

There may be sunshine tomorrow, shadows may break and flee; 'twill be the way He

chooses, the Father's plan for me.

(CHORUS)

He guides my falt'ring footsteps along the weary way, for well He knows the pathway will lead to endless day.

(CHORUS)

A day of light and gladness, on which no shade will fall, 'tis this at last awaits me, my Father planned it all.

(CHORUS)



If you have a praise, prayer request, study, devotional or article you would like posted in Hunger For Truth, please e-mail it to me at svtdtday@yahoo.com



Praises

- I praise God for the continued process of my house sale in PA. This would NOT be possible without Him.
- I praise God and want to say thank you to each and every one of you who take the time to read this every month and to those who have sent emails or have spoken to me about how the Lord has blessed you. Please keep them coming. They are a great blessing.
- Praise God for solid Local NT churches all across the land.
- Praise God for Victory in Jesus! Hallelujah, What a Savior!
- Praise God for health, safety, friends, family, and fellowship.
- I praise God for the privilege & blessing of preparing and sending this newsletter to people all across the land.
- Praise God that all we are and have belongs to Him. We should not want it any other way.

Prayer Requests

- Children and teens across the globe with serious health ailments.
- Expectant mothers all across the globe to know the Lord and raise the children for the Lord
- Bro. Greg Myers (recovering from heart bypass surgery)
- Gods grace, strength, wisdom and victory regarding an unspoken request for the HFT editor.
- Those in need of employment and ones seeking other jobs •Wisdom for HFT editor in leaving current jobs
- Pray for wisdom in finding work in MA in God's perfect timing and for process of house sale in PA to go well.
- Pray that God would help the H.F.T. editor find the one wife that God has for him.
- Our nation and its leaders and for revival in this land
- Salvation of my sister Wendy & friend Ben • Local New Testament churches with building needs
- Salvation of my nephew Jacob and Aunts' Sybil and Bernice
- Salvation of our family, friends and co-workers
- Souls devastated by the recent earthquake & tsunami in Japan. Pray for souls to be saved.
- Wisdom regarding HFT, HFT ministries and for FT service as the Lord leads
- Parents across this land to raise their children for the Lord
- Health and needs of Pastors, Missionaries, and Evangelists and their families
- Tract distribution and outreach to lost souls all over the world who were witnessed to last month for salvation

Back Issues of
Hunger For Truth
Are available to
view, print, or save at:
www.studytoanswer.net

If you do not wish to continue receiving this monthly newsletter, please e-mail me with "please remove" in the subject line.

In The Next Issue

You'll find several NEW studies plus a devotional in the "Children For Christ" column.

Thank you for reading this. I praise God for all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ and I greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

His Servant,

Craig G. – Prov. 3:5-6

