



Episode Two

The Small Step from Hearsay to Heresy

Jonah 1:7-17

Whose Idea was the Water Jump?

Hurl me into the sea and the water will quiet down: v.12

It was true that Jonah's disobedience was the cause of the storm

Might there have been more than one way to quiet the storm?

Have Jonah removed, or have Jonah repent!

Jonah Would Rather Die than Go To Nineveh

What if Jonah had simply repented on the deck and the winds quieted down?

The sailors would have seen the character of God: powerful and merciful

But as it was they only saw retributive power without mercy

Jonah's extreme stubbornness: see 4:3 and 4:8

The overboard toss is another form of running away from God

And it is the height of self-centeredness

Jonah's first running away got the innocent sailors caught up in the storm

Now this "second running away" forces the sailors to transgress their own consciences

See the piety of the sailors in contrast to the godlessness of Jonah

See the sailors instinctive moral sensibility in verses 13-14

"They feared the Lord exceedingly": Jonah inspired the wrong kind of fear

Two kinds of fear of the Lord: terror versus awe

Meanwhile, hidden to their eyes, God is sending a fish to rescue Jonah

A Small Step from Hearsay to Heresy

Attributing assertions about God in our words and actions

Christians are always broadcasting information about God

How is it that God has entrusted His reputation to us?

Jonah knew the correct revelation: see 4:2

But he didn't like what it required of him

"Speaking what is not right of Me": Job 42:7-8

Putting the right pieces in the wrong places

Slow to speak (from humility, not fear)

Be transparent with our questions

Where is it written?

Obey the thing that is clear
