

Sunday, February 18, 2018
Union Baptist Church, Wilmington
Dr. LaBarron McAdoo, Sr.
8a.m. and 11a.m. Services
Series: Balance of Your Work, Worship, and Witness
Sermon: Ministry After Mercy

Is there mercy in your ministry?

Jonah 3:1 - 10 - (KJV) ³ And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, ² Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. ³ So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. ⁴ And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. ⁵ So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. ⁶ For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷ And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: ⁸ But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹ Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? ¹⁰ And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

Intro: When Jonah had his repentive season in the fish, God did something. The Lord spoke to the great fish and the fish vomited up Jonah. After everything Jonah been through what he gone through, Jonah knew he could have been dead if it had not been for God. It was justified for Jonah to be dead, but God gave Jonah mercy. When God extends your day, it is not because you deserve. We have an existence beyond the through (he has been through something). God was speaking to everybody else but Jonah. Silence speaks. God speaks to the fish, wind, and everybody but the preacher.

People having engaged in ministry after receiving mercy shall be guilty of the following: ⁴ Attributes that show that your ministry is fueled by mercy:

1. There is reconnection - the Word came unto Jonah a second time. It is the privilege of grace. It is when God comes back and repeats Himself. The purpose of mercy and grace is not for you to continue to do the same. The purpose is for you to get it right. V. 1

2. There is a re-alignment. We can't get anointed by trying to do an un-anointed agenda. We are the ones that need to change. If you are going to do God's ministry, we must do it God's way. If you are going to do what is profitable, you must submit. To realign, you might have to admit that you were wrong. We can't be effective in ministry if it does not have mercy. V. 2 & 3
3. There is a rejuvenated & relentless commitment which is marked by one word-urgency. He is not strolling to the assignment. He is running. When you are marked by where you could of and should of have been, He made his steps tripled and started his assignment immediately. V. 3 & 4
4. There ought to be results. Results are normally the result of some other catalyst - an action. You cannot bear fruit if you don't look believable. We have a plague of unbelievable representative. It is only believable by an assessment of your own personal behaviors. V. 5
 1. Believability leads to results. The people believed from the greatest to least of them. It affected the whole city from the king to the kingdom. There was something about Jonah that showed Jonah been through something. V. 6 & 7
 2. Believability leads to behavior modification of others. V. 7 - 9
 3. Believability is infectious. V. 7 - 9