

“Salvation Belongs To The LORD!”

“But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!” (Jonah 2:9)

The prophet Jonah’s situation was unique... I don’t think any of us have ever spent three days or three nights in the belly of a fish. I do believe however there might be some that have spent three days and three nights with fish in their belly. Especially if it was fried catfish. But when we slow down and think of Jonah’s trying time it must have been quite the experience...

Yet, despite the abnormality of the event, I am convinced Jonah and we as Christians today have similarly experienced God... When Jonah was in the belly of the fish at some point, I am sure he realized that the only way out was going to come by God’s saving hand. Toward the end of his prayer, he cried out the great truth that “Salvation belongs to the LORD!”

You see, although we might not have gone through the physical claustrophobia that Jonah had to have felt during those three days. Or the darkness, and the absolute crippling fear and regret of his disobedience... In a spiritual sense, we must understand that because of our sin, and the consequences of our sin and rebellion against God’s holy calling on our lives. All of us are in a situation where the only way out of this fallen world is like Jonah came to know by way of escaping the fish... GOD! And God alone! For He alone must save us from the eternal darkness that our sin brings.

And praise be to God that is exactly what Jesus has done for us as His people. He recognized our distress, and He heard our desperate pleas for mercy, and He came to our saving aid. Jesus has opened a way of deliverance when it looked like there was no way out. In fact, the truth of the Gospel of God is that there is no way out other than the way that Christ has made with His saving cross work (Acts 4:12). For religion can’t rescue you, a million good works won’t do the trick, and hugging trees with a free spirit won’t get you completely out of “the belly of the fish” (this fallen world and dominion of sin). The only way is through JESUS!!!

And so, will you look to Jesus’ saving hand in faith? Like Jonah will you praise the Lord “with the voice of thanksgiving?” (2:9). Will you worship King Jesus for coming to your rescue? Will you serve the Lord of Salvation? If it weren’t for the LORD and His grace, you would spend an eternity in claustrophobic darkness... Hallelujah, what a Savior we have in Jesus! For Salvation belongs to the LORD!!!

Respect the Blood,
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