



The Story of
Jonah
and God's Relentless Grace



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and God's Relentless Grace ..."the ministry of reconciliation".













Existence precedes Essence



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Experience precedes Absolute



Essence precedes Existence



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Essence precedes Existence
Transcendence precedes Experience

II Corinthians 5:11-6:1

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Therefore: a series of implications

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- 11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience.
- 12 We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart.
- 13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

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10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

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Jonah 4:2

Jonah said to the LORD, “Is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster.”

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14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this:

that one has died for all,
therefore all have died;

14 and He died for all,
that those who live might no longer live for themselves
but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.

- 16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer.
- 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
- 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

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20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

21 For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

6:1 Working together with Him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.

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 - to faithfully represent Him in the world
 - to love those whom He loves
 - to be a co-worker with God