

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 21, 2018



THE LESSON **Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

The LORD's word came to Jonah a second time: ²"Get up and go to Nineveh, that great city, and declare against it the proclamation that I am commanding you." ³And Jonah got up and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD's word. (Now Nineveh was indeed an enormous city, a three days' walk across.)

⁴Jonah started into the city,

walking one day, and he cried out, "Just forty days more and Nineveh will be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on mourning clothes, from the greatest of them to the least significant.

¹⁰God saw what they were doing—that they had ceased their evil behavior. So God stopped planning to destroy them, and he didn't do it.

THE RESPONSE **Psalms 62:5-12**

⁵Oh, I must find rest in God only because my hope comes from him!

⁶Only God is my rock and my salvation—my stronghold!—I will not be shaken.

⁷My deliverance and glory depend on God. God is my strong rock. My refuge is in God.

⁸All you people: Trust in him at all times! Pour out your hearts before him! God is our refuge!

⁹Human beings are nothing but a breath. Human beings are nothing but lies. They don't even register on a scale; taken all together they are lighter than a breath!

¹⁰Don't trust in violence; don't set false hopes in robbery. When wealth bears fruit, don't set your heart on it.

¹¹God has spoken one thing—make it two things—that I myself have heard: that strength belongs to God,

¹²and faithful love comes from you, my Lord—and that you will repay everyone according to their deeds.

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹This is what I'm saying, brothers and sisters: the time has drawn short. From now on, those who have wives should be like people who don't have them. ³⁰Those who are sad should be like people who

aren't crying. Those who are happy should be like people who aren't happy. Those who buy something should be like people who don't have possessions. ³¹Those who use the world should be like people who aren't preoccupied with it, because this world in its present form is passing away.

THE GOSPEL **Mark 1:14-20**

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, ¹⁵saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

¹⁶As Jesus passed alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, for they were

fishermen. ¹⁷"Come, follow me," he said, "and I'll show you how to fish for people." ¹⁸Right away, they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹After going a little further, he saw James and John, Zebedee's sons, in their boat repairing the fishing nets. ²⁰At that very moment he called them. They followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired workers.

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