

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

05/04/22 - God's Redemptive Love

RG Audio 050422

Jonah 3:1-10

The Old Testament word for loving-kindness is *hesed*. *Hesed* love is a Hebrew term that has two pillars. Pillar one: God's *hesed* love includes justice, mercy, and compassion. In this extreme story, God shows loving-kindness for all Gentile men and women living in Nineveh.

The Bible teaches that God is a seeking, missionary God. Before the Gentile citizens of Nineveh turned to God, they proudly worshiped idols. But out of love God provided an opportunity for two million people to repent.

Pillar two: *Hesed* love includes the wrath of God. God's wrath was displayed in a stormy sea to get the attention and cooperated with God's plan for the runaway prophet Jonah. The wrath of God also threatened the destruction of a large city. The Ninevites cried out to God, repented, and believed.

In modern times, we can see God's *hesed* love displayed in countries, families, and individuals. His purpose is always redemptive, not punitive.

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