

Jonah's Anger And The LORD's Compassion

(4:1-11)

Intro: This fourth and final chapter of the book records God's interaction with His rebellious prophet. Jonah was furious over God's gracious and merciful deliverance of Nineveh. The book climaxes with the LORD giving Jonah a lesson on compassion. He appoints a plant, a worm, and a scorching east wind to rebuke Jonah for his lack of compassion (4:4-9). The book ends with a powerful contrast between the way of God (gracious and forgiving), and the way of Jonah [angry and unforgiving] (vv. 10-11).



Sixth Episode: Jonah's Angry Prayer (4:1-4)

- A. Jonah prayed to the LORD (vv. 1-2a)
- B. Jonah's prayer (vv. 2b-3)
- C. The LORD's response (v. 4)

Seventh Episode: Jonah's Lesson About Compassion (4:5-11)

- A. Jonah's angry response: *He sits and sulks under a shelter he made* (v. 5)
- B. The LORD gives Jonah a lesson on compassion (vv. 6-9)
 - 1. God appoints a plant to shade Jonah (v. 6)
 - 2. God appoints a worm to eat the plant (v. 7)
 - 3. God appoints a scorching East wind (v. 8a)
 - 4. Jonah's anger over the plant (vv. 8b-9)
- C. God's concluding word: His compassion for the people of Nineveh (vv. 10-11)

Applications:

Seven Episodes in Jonah

7 Jonah's lesson about compassion (4:5-11) God: "Should I not pity the Ninevites?"	
3 Jonah's grateful prayer (1:17-2:10) <i>How does Jonah respond to God's grace toward him?</i>	6 Jonah's angry prayer (4:1-4) <i>How does Jonah respond to God's grace toward others?</i>
2 Jonah and the pagan sailors (1:4-16) <i>How responsive are the pagan sailors?</i>	5 Jonah and the pagan Ninevites (3:3b-10) <i>How responsive are the pagan Ninevites?</i>
1 Jonah's commissioning and flight (1:1-3) <i>What will happen to Jonah?</i>	4 Jonah's recommissioning & compliance (3:1-3a) <i>What will happen to the Ninevites?</i>

Outline

- A Jonah's Commissioning and Flight (1:1-3)
 - B Jonah and the Pagan Sailors (1:4-16)
 - C Jonah's Grateful Prayer (1:17-2:10)
- A' Jonah's Recommissioning and Compliance (3:1-3a)
 - B' Jonah and the Pagan Ninevites (3:3b-10)
 - C' Jonah's Angry Prayer (4:1-4)
- D Jonah's Lesson About Compassion (4:5-11)

God: "Should I Not Pity the Ninevites?"