AIC - 23 April 2023

Running to God: Jonah 2

"Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice." Jonah 2:1-2

- 1) Notice how Jonah prayed to the LORD <u>his</u> God...

 It was personal. How about you? How big is your God? Can your God create a fish that a person could survive inside for three days and three nights? Or is that too ridiculous for you to consider? Does your God listen to and answer your prayers, even if you are guilty like Jonah?
- 2) Later when Jonah is talking about when he was rescued from the jaws of death and despair, he cried, "...The waters closed in over me to take my life... yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God." Do you pray and call the Lord "my God?" Does your God care about you? Can your God interact with your world in physical and spiritual ways? Can your God rescue and deliver you?
- 3) What we believe to be true about our God will heavily influence our faith and our relationship with God. Do you know Him? Do you trust Him? Do you believe He can do the unthinkable?

Who is this God that we must run to with all of our heart?

- He listens to and answers the prayers of a guilty man (v2)
- He cast Jonah into the deep to wake him up to his need for God's mercy (v3-6)
- He miraculously rescued Jonah from the grip of death and despair (v6-7)
- He restored Jonah to where he needed to be (v10)