

## “Yeah...No Thanks...”

June 18, 2025

**INTRO:** Fresh, white BMW right off the lot!

***Until we understand fully what God’s grace really is, we’ll never truly appreciate the breath we breathe or the life we live...***

### **I’m good**

**Jonah 1:1-6** Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” 3 But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. 4 But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. 5 Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. 6 So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.”

- **Why Nineveh?**
- **Why Jonah?**

We have a disobedience problem! That can be from your parents, your leaders, or most importantly God!

At least Jonah was listening...

**John 10:27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

**Psalms 85:8** Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

**Deut 30:20** Loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days,

### **Pay the price**

**Jonah 1:7-16** And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. 8 Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” 9 And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” 10 Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them. 11 Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. 12 He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” 13 Nevertheless, the men rowed hard[b] to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. 14 Therefore they called out to the Lord, “O Lord, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you.” 15 So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. 16 Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.

- Consequences are a REAL THING!

Just because you have Christ in your heart doesn't mean there's no consequences for your actions!

They can look different ways...

- Lack of Joy
- Discontentment
- Achan

**Josh 7:22-26** *So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and behold, it was hidden in his tent with the silver underneath. 23 And they took them out of the tent and brought them to Joshua and to all the people of Israel. And they laid them down before the Lord. 24 And Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver and the cloak and the bar of gold, and his sons and daughters and his oxen and donkeys and sheep and his tent and all that he had. And they brought them up to the Valley of Achor. 25 And Joshua said, "Why did you bring trouble on us? The Lord brings trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones. 26 And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the Lord turned from his burning anger.*

- David

**2 Sam 12:15-19** *And the Lord afflicted the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and he became sick. 16 David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. 17 And the elders of his house stood beside him, to raise him from the ground, but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. 18 On the seventh day the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, "Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke to him, and he did not listen to us. How then can we say to him the child is dead? He may do himself some harm." 19 But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" They said, "He is dead."*

***Jonah was a prophet, and he didn't fear the Lord...in a world where the biggest consequence you run into might be the lunch served wasn't your favorite...we don't know what it means to fear God!***

## But God...

*Let's start with that first phrase-one of my favorite phrases in the entire Bible: "But God." God is fond of taking difficult, even impossible situations, and completely flipping them around. He'll start out with a negative, then He'll add "but" and provide an enormous positive that dwarfs any negative that could come our way. He takes delight in adding a "but God" into our narrative. We may not have seen or heard, and we cannot even imagine what God has prepared for us, "but God has revealed them to us." **Frank Friedmann** "Stunned by Grace" pg. 77-78*

**Jonah 1:17** *And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.*

**God's example of grace to Jonah is the same grace we received in salvation, and every day following!**