

The God of the Second Chance

Jonah 3:1-4

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and proclaim to it the proclamation which I am going to tell you." 3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three days' walk. 4 Then Jonah began to go through the city one day's walk; and he cried out and said, "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

Second Chance Quotes:

"Every day is a second chance."

"Everybody deserves a second chance."

"Life always offers you a second chance. It's called tomorrow."

"A second chance doesn't always mean a happy ending, it's a chance to end things right."

- I. Jonah's second chance was made necessary by his **first** response. (1:1-2)

The word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me."

1. Jonah's first response was to **rebel**. (1:3)

But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. So he went down to Joppa, found a ship which was going to Tarshish, paid the fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

2. Jonah's first response was to **retreat**. (1:5-6)

Jonah had gone below into the hold of the ship, lain down and fallen sound asleep. So the captain approached him and said, "How is it that you are sleeping? Get up, call on your god. Perhaps your god will be concerned about us so that we will not perish."

3. Jonah's first response was to **resign**. (1:12)

He said to them, "**Pick me up and throw me into the sea**. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm has come upon you."

- II. Jonah's second chance followed his **prayerful** response. (1:17)

And **the Lord appointed** a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.

1. Jonah's prayed to God in his **distress**. (2:2)

"I called out of my distress to the Lord, And He answered me."

2. Jonah prayed to God from the **depths**. (2:5)

"Water encompassed me to the point of death. **The great deep engulfed me**; Weeds were wrapped around my head.

3. Jonah prayed to God with total **dependence**. (2:9)

But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving. That which I have vowed I will pay. ***Salvation is from the Lord.***"

III. Jonah's second chance led to his ***obedient*** response. (3:1-2)

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, 2 ***"Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and proclaim to it the proclamation which I am going to tell you."***

1. Jonah obeyed God ***immediately***. (Jonah 3:3)

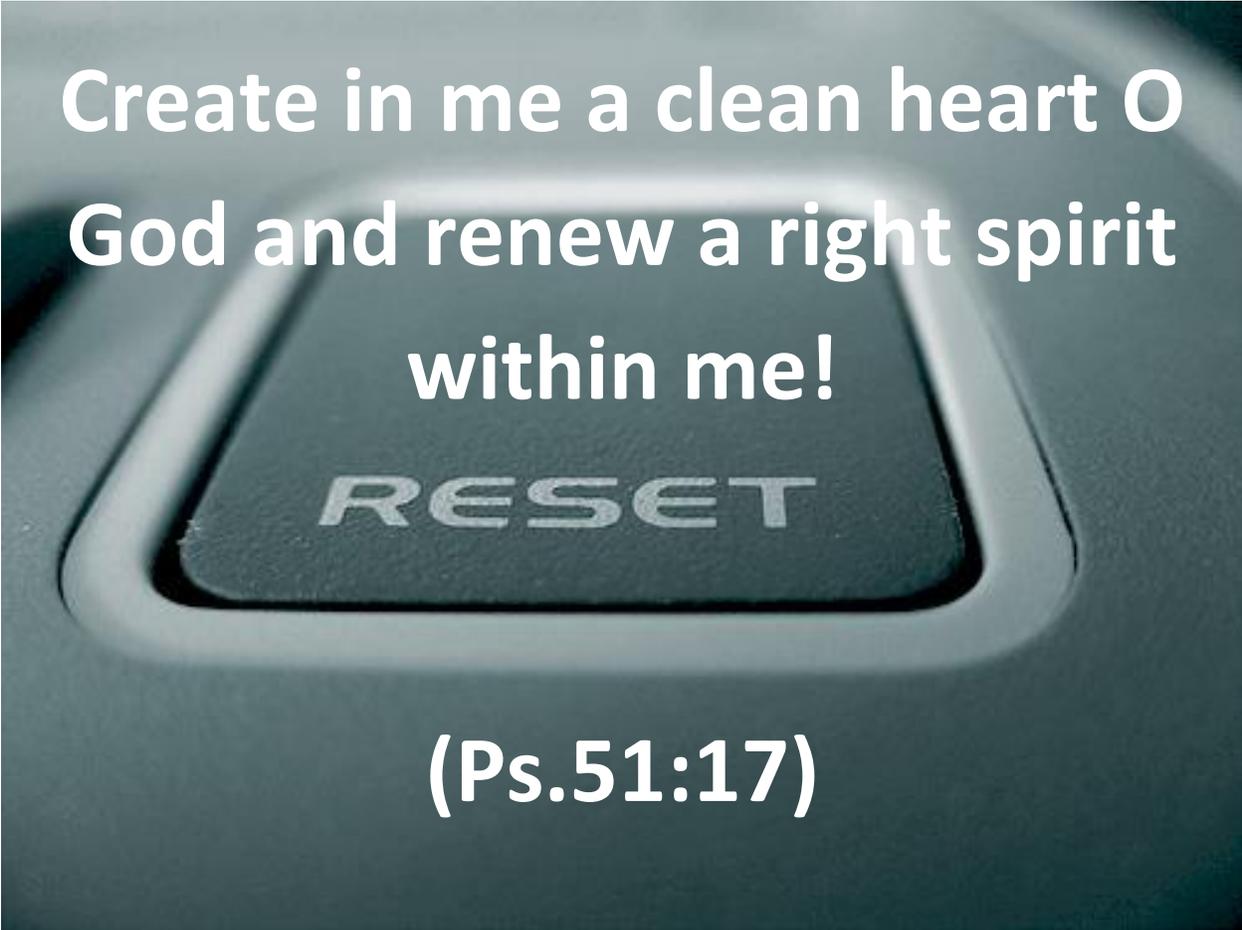
"So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three days' walk."

2. Jonah obeyed God ***completely***. (Jonah 3:4)

Then Jonah began to go through the city one day's walk; and he cried out and said, "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

3. Jonah obeyed God ***successfully***. (3:5)

Then the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them.



Create in me a clean heart O
God and renew a right spirit
within me!

(Ps.51:17)