

The Deeper Death

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Jonah 2.
- B. Jesus uses the Noah story as an illustration of his death, burial and resurrection proving its historicity.
- C. There were four stages in Noah's relationship with the Lord.

II. Disobedience.

- A. With Jonah's knowledge of God, we would expect him to obey God.
- B. He forgot the Lord--he did not bring God into his circumstances.
- C. He neglected prayer.
- D. He believed lies.

III. Discipline.

- A. God did not give up on Jonah. God is as concerned about the worker as the work.
- B. Whenever you find a believer out of the will of God, you find trouble. (Hebrews 12)
- C. God disciplines those he loves.
- D. God disciplines us to remind us of his word.
- E. God disciplines to remind us what it is like to be lost.
- F. Our response: we can despise, fight or fume, but we are called to submit.

IV. Dedication.

- A. The whole problem is one of the will.
- B. When we confess our sins, God forgives. (1 John 1:9)
- C. The victorious Christian life is a series of new beginnings.

V. Deliverance.

- A. God changes circumstances when character changes.
- B. God keeps working until the job gets done.
- C. People need to see walking miracles.
- D. We have to die to ourselves in order to have a deeper life.

Application questions:

1. When have you believed lies that led to disobedience?

2. How would you respond to a Christian who says that the idea of discipline is evil?

3. How are we to view circumstances different in light of character development? Explain.
