

The opposite of grace

Jonah 4:4-11

- I. Compassion for a plant – Jonah exposed his self-centeredness (Jonah 4:4-8).
 - A. God’s question: Do you have a right to be angry – about my grace (4)?
 - B. Jonah ignores God’s question (5).
 - C. God gets Jonah’s attention by providing and then removing a sheltering vine (6-7).
 - D. Jonah resumed his self-centered desire to die (8).
- II. Compassion for lost people – God revealed his heart of grace (Jonah 4:9-11).
 - A. God’s question revisited: Do you have a right to be angry about the vine (9a)?
 - B. Jonah responds to God’s question: *Yes I do* (9b)!
 - C. Jonah, you care about a temporary plant you did not tend; I care about eternal people I created (10-11).

Principles

- It’s God’s nature to show grace (Book of Jonah; Matthew 9:36; 2 Peter 3:9).
- It’s our nature to think selfishly unless we are taught by God to show grace (Jonah).