

# THE GRUMBLINGS OF AN ANGRY PROPHET

## Jonah 4:1–5

A remarkable change had swept over the once-wicked city of Nineveh. From the greatest to the least among them, each person had heard Jonah's single-sentence sermon—the prediction of a dreadful, catastrophic judgment that would fall upon them—and they did not hesitate to believe it. As we read in the remarkable story, "The people of Nineveh believed God's message" (Jonah 3:5) and quickly responded with deeds of repentance. Amazing! This huge city of more than 120,000 people who had been living in spiritual darkness (4:11) completely changed the direction of their violent lifestyles as they turned from their evil ways and prayed earnestly to God (3:8). We would think that such a response would thrill the heart of God's prophet, Jonah. Instead, he sulked in angry disappointment. Like a spoiled child, he resented what happened. It would be easy for us to criticize Jonah. We should check our own hearts before doing so!

### I. Remembering Days of Disappointments

Introduction

- In our own lives
  
- In biblical times

### II. Examining Jonah's Response

Exposition

- His attitude of anger (v. 1)
  
- His words of resentment (vv. 2–3)
  
- His refusal to answer (v. 4)
  
- His place to sulk (v. 5)

### III. Considering a Better Alternative

Application