

# **RUNNING**

## **THE STORY OF JONAH AND US**

### **#1: WHERE AM I RUNNING?**

**JIM HINTON**

## **I. SCRIPTURE OFTEN DESCRIBES MY SPIRITUAL LIFE AS “RUNNING”**

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NLT)

You were running a good race. Who stopped you from following the true way?

Galatians 5:7 (NCV)

Since we are surrounded by so many examples of faith we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially sin that distracts us. We must run the race that lies ahead of us and never give up.

Hebrews 12:1 (GWT)

**It is an ironic habit of human beings to run faster when they have lost their way.**

**Dr. Rollo May**

## **II. AN OVERVIEW OF JONAH: THE PROPHET WHO RAN**

- 1. The People**
- 2. The Place**
- 3. The Point**

## **III. AN OUTLINE OF OUR STUDY OF JONAH**

**Chapter 1: Running from God—The consequences of rebellion.**

**Chapter 2: Running to God—The rewards of repentance.**

**Chapter 3: Running with God—The power of obedience.**

**Chapter 4: Running into God—The problem of pettiness.**

# IV. THINGS TO REMEMBER FROM JONAH - AS I RUN

## 1. I can never really run from God

Where can I go to get away from your Spirit? Where can I run from you? If I go up to the heavens, you are there. If I lie down in the grave, you are there. If I rise with the sun in the east and settle in the west beyond the sea, even there you would guide me. With your right hand you would hold me.

Psalm 139:7-9 (NCV)

## 2. My worst experience may be God's greatest deliverance

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Romans 8:28 (NLT)

## 3. I serve the God of the second chance

[God] does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:10-12 (NIV)

## 4. God uses imperfect people to do His most important work

You will not succeed by your own strength or power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD All-Powerful. Zechariah 4:6 (NCV)

