

Jonah

000618

This morning I want to look with you into the Book of Jonah, a book which is perhaps the best known of all the Minor Prophets, the most widely known but perhaps only known in regard to one or two instances in it . The book as a whole is perhaps no better known than the rest of the minor prophets. But the book of Jonah is one that is filled with important lessons for our lives and for our service to the Lord. It is a book which has a ~~esp~~ special interest to us in a missionary conference, and so this morning I'm going to try ~~r~~ rather hastily to look at some of the main emphases of this book. I think in the next days I will look at Micah and Nahum. I'm not sure how much I'll get to Nahum because there is a great deal in Micah that I think will be of great interest to you. But today we look at ~~Jeh~~ Jonah and at the very beginning we read something that is of vital interest to every Christian, the leading of the Lord. " Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it;" ~~fer~~ God lead Jonah to Nineveh to preach the Word of God. Now in our day God does not often , if ever, speak directly to an individual in a way in which He spoke to Jonah. there. God leads us in many ways, but the principle way He speaks is very close to the way He spoke to Jonah, that is by the word of ~~of~~ the Lord. But the Word of the Lord was given to the prophets in ancient times and in New Testament times and is written in ~~the~~ this book and we have the message that He want~~w~~ us to have. And the spirit of God, as we study ~~the~~ Word applies it to our hearts and leads us and shows us the principles which should condition our life and our service for Him. And so in a way it is just the same. God spoke to Jonah and said to go to Nineveh and cry against it. In our day God speaks to everyone of us through the Wrod of God and ~~none~~ tells us that there is a world that needs Christ and that it is our place to get the message to that world, to get the messageto those who are nearer to us and