

Jonah 4  
When I Am Self-Absorbed

**Absorbed:** having one's  
attention wholly  
engaged or occupied

**Merriam-Webster**

Jonah 4  
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Warren Wiersbe, With the Word Bible Commentary

If God wanted only to save the city of Nineveh, the book would have ended at chapter 3. But there was still more work to do, for God wanted to save His servant from himself.

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1. I'm Frustrated By The Nature Of God  
(v1-2)



Warren Wiersbe, With the Word Bible Commentary

The basic problem was that Jonah was not completely yielded to God. His mind knew God's truth, and his will obeyed God's orders; but he did not do the will of God from the heart.

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Thomas Constable, Expository Notes Of Dr. Constable

To his credit, Jonah told God why he was angry; he did not murmur or complain about God. Many believers try to hide their true feelings from God when they think God will not approve of those feelings. Even though the prophet had been rebellious, and still did not share God's compassion, he had a personal relationship with God.

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# God Is

1. Merciful
2. Compassionate
3. Slow To Anger
4. Filled With Unfailing Love
5. Eager To Turn Back From Destroying People

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## Jonah 4 When I Am Self-Absorbed

1. I'm Frustrated By The Nature Of God (v1-2)
2. I'm Slow To Understand What God Is Saying (v3-5)



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**2.** I'm Slow To Understand What God Is Saying  
(v3-5)

God likes to ask us questions because they reveal our hearts. It also puts us on proper ground before God, because He has every right to question us and we owe Him answers.

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**2. I'm Slow To Understand What God Is Saying  
(v3-5)**



## James 1

NLT

**20** Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.

**21** So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

**22** But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

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**2.** I'm Slow To Understand What God Is Saying  
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## Jonah 4 When I Am Self-Absorbed

1. I'm Frustrated By The Nature Of God (v1-2)
2. I'm Slow To Understand What God Is Saying (v3-5)
3. I'm Prone To Extreme Mood Swings (v6-8)

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**3.** I'm Prone To Extreme Mood Swings  
(v6-8)

Warren Wiersbe, "Be" Commentary Series

The remarkable thing is that God tenderly dealt with His sulking servant and sought to bring him back to the place of joy and fellowship.

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**3. I'm Prone To Extreme Mood Swings  
(v6-8)**

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**3.** I'm Prone To Extreme Mood Swings  
(v6-8)



Tony Evans, The Tony Evans Bible Commentary

When you're having a bad day, have you ever asked yourself if the things happening to you might be God's sovereign appointments designed for your good? Perhaps that irritating co-worker is meant to serve as a divine appointment to help you grow spiritually.

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**3. I'm Prone To Extreme Mood Swings  
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3. I'm Prone To Extreme Mood Swings (v6-8)
4. I'm Blind To What Is Most Important (v9-11)

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4. I'm Blind To What Is Most Important  
(v9-11)



Eric C. Redmond, Exalting Jesus in Jonah

Typically, people, even believers, tend to express more passion over the crash of a hard drive than over the souls of people who are in jeopardy of the wrath of God.

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**4. I'm Blind To What Is Most Important  
(v9-11)**

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**4.** I'm Blind To What Is Most Important  
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Warren Wiersbe, "Be" Commentary Series

Jonah was a narrow-minded patriot who saw Assyria only as a dangerous enemy to destroy, not as a company of repentant sinners to be brought to the Lord.

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**4. I'm Blind To What Is Most Important  
(v9-11)**

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## Hebrews 12

NLT

**1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

**2** We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

**3** Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up.

**4** After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin.

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