

Jonah

By

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Jonah

The Reluctant Missionary

I. Not Your will but mine be done Lord! - 1:1-17

- A. Jonah I want you to take the Gospel to sin city - 1:1-2**
- B. Lord I had in mind a Mediterranean cruise - 1:3**
- C. Jonah I will give you a cruise you will never forget - 1:3-6**
- D. Lord how shall I explain this to these sailors - 1:7-11**
- E. Jonah tell them what to do with you - 1:12-13**
- F. Lord look the sailors are praying and You are working - 1:14-16**
- G. Jonah I am going to give you a submarine tour - 1:17**

II. OK Lord - I will pray about being a missionary - 2:1-10

- A. Lord I guess I could pray about being a missionary - 1:17-2:1**
- B. Lord I thought I was headed to the grave - 2:2**
- C. Lord this has been a very wet cruise - 2:3-5**
- D. Lord I feel like I have come back from the grave - 2:6**
- E. Lord I am glad you will still listen to me when I pray - 2:7**
- F. Lord it was their choice to worship worthless idols - 2:8**
- G. Lord I will go if you will get me out of here - 2:9**
- H. Jonah OK then I will give the fish indigestion - 2:10**

III. OK Lord - but I will preach judgment not grace - 3:1-10

- A. Jonah I want you to take the Gospel to sin city - 3:1-2**
- B. Lord I will go but I am just going to preach judgment - 3:3-4**
- C. Jonah I said this was a whitened harvest field - 3:5-9**
- D. Jonah you preach judgment but I am going to show mercy - 3:10**

IV. Lord - You did exactly what I was afraid You would do - 4:1-11

- A. Lord the forty days are up so give it to them - 4:1**
- B. Lord just what I was afraid of, that You would show mercy - 4:2-3**
- C. Jonah is it right for you to be angry? - 4:4**
- D. Lord keep Your word and give them what they deserve - 4:5**
- E. Jonah let Me show you what judgment without mercy is like - 4:6-7**
- F. Lord just let me die - 4:8-9**
- G. Jonah you showed a great concern for the plant! - 4:10**
- H. Jonah I have a great love for the salvation of people - 4:11**

Jonah

The Reluctant Missionary

I. Not Your will but mine be done Lord! - 1:1-17

A. Jonah I want you to take the Gospel to sin city - 1:1-2

Jonah heard the Lord speak to him
Jonah was the son of Amittai
Jonah was told to arise and go to Nineveh
Nineveh was very evil - Nahum 1:1-3; 2:13
Jonah was told that Nineveh was a great city
This was a city of about 600,000 people - Jonah 4:11
Jonah was told to cry out against their sin
We are to warn the wicked - Ezek. 33:8
Jonah was told that their wickedness was great
Nineveh had been started by Nimrod - Gen. 10:8-11

B. Lord I had in mind a Mediterranean cruise - 1:3

Jonah chose instead to flee to Tarshish
This city was the opposite direction from Nineveh
Jonah was actually trying to flee from the presence of the Lord
We cannot flee from the presence of the Lord - Ps. 139:7-12
Jonah then went down to Joppa
Jonah found a ship going to Tarshish
Jonah paid the fare so that he could avoid obeying God
Disobedience always has a high cost - Gal. 6:7-8
Jonah went down into the ship
Jonah was trying to flee from the presence of the Lord

C. Jonah I will give you a cruise you will never forget - 1:4-6

1. The response of the Lord - 1:4

The Lord sent a great wind on the sea
God allows storms for a purpose - Acts 27:14-15
The Lord caused a mighty storm on the sea
God works through storms - Acts 27:20-25
The Lord allowed the ship to be nearly broken apart
God works to conform us to His image - Rom. 8:28-29

2. The response of the sailors - 1:5a

The sailors were afraid and filled with fear
Perfect love casts out fear - I John 4:18-19
The sailors called out to their gods
Many people are in spiritual darkness - Acts 17:23
The sailors threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship

3. The response of Jonah - 1:5b

Jonah had gone down into the bottom part of the ship
Jonah was sound asleep to the need around him
His conscience did not even bother him - Matt. 9:36-38

4. The response of the captain - 1:6

The captain came to Jonah
The captain asked him why he was sleeping
The captain told Jonah to get up and call on his God
The captain said that maybe his God would consider them
They later learned he served the God who is the Creator - Jonah 1:9
The captain said that maybe He would keep them from perishing

D. Lord how shall I explain this to these sailors - 1:7-11

1. Jonah was shown to be the cause by the casting of lots - 1:7

The sailors talked about what to do
The sailors decided to cast lots
The sailors wanted to find out who had caused this trouble
The sailors saw that the lot fell on Jonah
Jonah had not been able to hide from God - Ps. 139:11-12

2. Jonah was asked about his background - 1:8

Jonah was asked to tell what he had done
Jonah could not hide his sin - Num. 32:23
Jonah was asked for the cause of this trouble
Jonah was asked about his occupation
Jonah was asked about his country of origin
Jonah was asked about the people from which he came

3. Jonah admitted that he served God - 1:9

Jonah said that he was a Hebrew
Jonah said that he feared the God of heaven
Jonah began with the Creator and His creation - Rom. 1:25
Jonah said that God is the Creator of the sea and dry land
The world serves the unknown god - Acts 17:23
God is the eternal Creator - Is. 40:28

4. Jonah was asked why he had run away from God - 1:10

The sailors were exceedingly afraid
People have great fear in natural disasters - Acts 16:26-29; 27:20
The sailors asked "Why have you done this?"
Jonah was rebuked for his sin by the sailors - I Tim. 5:20
The sailors heard that Jonah fled from the presence of the Lord
Jonah had to admit that he had disobeyed God - Jonah 1:3
The sailors had been given that information by Jonah
Jonah like Judas was forced to confess his sin - Matt. 27:3-5

5. Jonah was asked what they should do with him - 1:11

The sailors asked Jonah what they should do to him
The sailors wanted to know how the sea could become calm
God was working even though Jonah was a poor witness - Jonah 1:16
The sailors saw that the storm was getting worse

E. Jonah tell them what to do with you - 1:12-13

1. Jonah had told tell the truth - 1:12

Jonah said to throw him overboard
Jonah did not throw himself over - Jonah 1:15
Jonah said that then the sea would become calm
Jonah said that he knew the storm was because of him

2. Jonah saw that the sailors tried to save his life - 1:13

The sailors rowed hard to try to return to land
The sailors could make no progress toward land
The sailors saw the storm was getting even worse

F. Lord look the sailors are praying and you are working - 1:14-16

1. the sailors all prayed to the true God - 1:14

The sailors believed the message of Jonah

The sailors both believed and received - John 1:12

The sailors prayed to the Lord

They had turned from praying to their idols - I Thess. 1:9

The sailors believed in the Lord

The sailors repented of their sin of unbelief - John 16:8-9

The sailors asked not to be charged with innocent blood

The sailors were now confessing sins - I John 1:9

The sailors recognized the Lord had done what pleased Him

The Lord chose to reach these sailors through Jonah - Ps. 115:3

2. the sailors then threw Jonah overboard - 1:15

The sailors picked up Jonah

The sailors threw Jonah into the sea

Jonah had told them what to do - Jonah 1:12

The sailors saw the sea stop raging

Jesus also stopped the raging sea - Matt. 14:30-33

3. the sailors gave thanks to God for the way He worked - 1:16

The sailors feared the Lord exceedingly

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Prov. 9:10

The sailors offered a sacrifice to the Lord

The Lord worked in spite of Jonah - Heb. 4:12

The sailors took vows

The sailors had their lives transformed - Rom. 12:2

G. Jonah I am going to give you a submarine tour - 1:17

Jonah did not know the Lord had prepared a great fish for him

This fish liked the depths of the sea - Jonah 2:6

Jonah was swallowed by this great fish

Jonah went into the belly of the fish

Jonah was in the belly three days and three nights

Jonah was a very stubborn man - Deut. 9:27

Jonah waited three days before he prayed - Jonah 2:1

II. OK Lord - I will pray about being a missionary - 2:1-10

A. Lord I guess I could pray about being a missionary 1:17-2:1

Jonah was stubborn and did not pray for three days

Stubbornness is really the sin of rebellion - I Sam. 15:23

Jonah then prayed to God

The Lord will hear us when we cry out to Him - Ps. 34:17

Jonah prayed to God from the belly of the fish

This became Jonah's secret place of prayer - Matt. 6:6

B. Lord I thought I was headed to the grave - 2:2

Jonah cried to the Lord because of His affliction

Jonah experienced intense inner turmoil - Ps. 25:16-17

Jonah was answered by the Lord

The Lord is our strength in trouble - Ps. 37:39

Jonah said he cried out of the belly of Sheol

Jonah felt like he was among the dead - Job 7:9-10

Jonah knew that the Lord heard his voice

The Lord hears when we cry to Him - Ps. 4:1

C. Lord this has been a very wet cruise - 2:3-5

Jonah said the Lord had cast him into the deep

The deepest part of the sea - Micah 7:19

Jonah said the Lord cast him into the heart of the sea

(The Lord took him to the inner part of the sea)

Jonah said that the floods surrounded him

Jonah said the billows and waves of the Lord passed over him

The waves were moving over the top of Jonah - Ps. 124:4-5

Jonah said that he felt like he had been out of the sight of the Lord

The Lord is with us even in the uttermost parts of the sea - Ps. 139:9

Jonah said that he looked forward to seeing the Lord's temple

The Jews looked the direction of the temple as they prayed - Dan. 6:10

Jonah said the waters surrounded him including his soul

Jonah wanted the Lord even in disobedience - Ps. 42:1-2

Jonah said the deep closed around him

Jonah experienced the depths around him - Ps. 107:26

Jonah said the weeds were wrapped around his head

(These were water plants that grew in the water)

D. Lord I feel like I have come back from the grave - 2:6

Jonah said he went down to the base of the mountains
Jonah felt the bar of the earth had closed behind him forever
Jonah said that then the Lord brought up his life from the pit
The Lord is gracious and full of compassion - Ps. 145:8
Jonah said that was the work of the Lord his God

E. Lord I am glad you will still listen to me when I pray - 2:7

Jonah said that his soul fainted within him
We can cry to the Lord when we are overwhelmed - Ps. 61:2
Jonah said that then he remembered the Lord
Sometimes it also takes us time to remember - Matt. 26:74-75
Jonah said that then he prayed to the Lord
Jonah remembered God when he was troubled - Ps. 77:1
Jonah said his prayer went to the holy temple of God

F. Lord it was their choice to worship worthless idols - 2:8

Jonah said the nations worship worthless idols
These idols can do nothing even for themselves - Ps. 115:4-8
Jonah said they forsake the One who gives mercy
The Lord is the One to whom belongs mercy - Ps. 62:12

G. Lord I will go if You will get me out of here - 2:9

Jonah said in contrast he would sacrifice to the Lord
Jonah was going to keep his vows - Ps. 116:14, 18
Jonah said that he would pray with the voice of thanksgiving
Jonah had no thanksgiving when the people of Nineveh repented - Jonah 4:1
Jonah said that he would keep the promise that he vowed
Jonah did go to Nineveh the second time God called - Jonah 3:3
Jonah said that salvation is of the Lord
Jonah did not want that salvation for Nineveh - Jonah 4:2

H. Jonah OK then I will give the fish indigestion - 2:10

The Lord spoke to the fish
The Lord gave Jonah a second chance - Jonah 3:2-3
The Lord had the fish vomit up Jonah on dry land

III. OK Lord - but I will preach judgment not grace - 3:1-10

A. Jonah I want you to take the Gospel to sin city - 3:1-2

The Lord gave Jonah a second opportunity to obey

Jonah did not obey the first time - Jonah 1:1-3

The Lord told Jonah again to go to Nineveh

This time Jonah obeyed - Jonah 3:3

The Lord told Jonah Nineveh was a great city

This was probably a city of about 600,000 people - Jonah 4:11
(this may have been the largest city in the world at that time)

The Lord told Jonah to preach the message that He gave

Jonah preached that Nineveh would be overthrown - Jonah 3:4

B. Lord I will go but I am just going to preach judgment - 3:3-4

Jonah arose and went to Nineveh

He did not try a second trip to Tarshish - Jonah 1:3

Jonah was ready to do what the Lord told him to do

Jonah found that Nineveh was a very great city (60 miles around it)

Jonah learned it would take three days to walk around the city

Jonah walked toward the center of the city

Cities have many people needing forgiveness - Jonah 4:11

Jonah preached that Nineveh would be overthrown in 40 days

With some use compassion and with others fear - Jude 22-23

C. Jonah I said this was a whitened harvest field - 3:5-9

1. The personal response of the people - 3:5

The people of Nineveh believed God

God is the One who draws people - John 6:44

Repentance is turning from idols to God - I Thess. 1:9

Repentance and faith is what we are to preach - Acts 20:21

The people of Nineveh proclaimed a fast

This was to show sorrow for sin - Esther 4:3

The people of Nineveh put on sackcloth

Sackcloth was a sign of sorrow - II Kings 19:1

The people of Nineveh included the greatest of them

Even the king put on sackcloth - Jonah 3:6

The people of Nineveh included the least of them

2. The personal response of the king - 3:6

The king heard about the message of Jonah
The king arose from his throne
The king laid aside his robe
The king covered himself with sackcloth
The king led the way in repentance - Jer. 6:25
The king sat in ashes
The king showed true sorrow for sin - Job 42:6

3. The proclamation given by the king - 3:7-9

The king sent a decree throughout Nineveh
The king said the decree was from he and his nobles
The king said the decree applied to both men and animals
The decree said they were not to taste anything
The decree said they were not to eat anything
The people proclaimed a fast - Jonah 3:5
The decree said they were not to drink anything
The decree said they all were to put on sackcloth
The people put on sackcloth - Jonah 3:5
The decree said the people were all to cry mightily to God
The decree said that they were all to turn from their evil way
Evil thoughts of the heart produce evil actions - Gen. 6:5
The decree said they were all to turn from violence
Violence is common when people are in rebellion - Gen. 6:11
The decree said those actions might cause God to relent
God will relent when there is true repentance - Jer. 18:8
The decree said that might cause Him to turn from his fierce anger
The decree said that was their only hope to avoid perishing
The king understand and applied the message of Jonah - Jonah 3:4

D. Jonah you preached judgment but I am going to show mercy - 3:10

God saw they works that they turned from their evil way
The people believed God - Jonah 3:5
The Lord wants all to come to repentance - II Pet. 3:8
God relented from the disaster He said He would bring on them
God also relents in answer to prayer - Amos 7:3, 6
God did not bring that disaster on them
Warnings of judgment are conditional - Jer. 18:8

IV. Lord - You did exactly what I was afraid You would do - 4:1-11

A. Lord the forty days are up so give it to them - 4:1

Jonah was exceedingly displeased

Jonah had been obedient and went to Nineveh - Jonah 3:3

However, Jonah was not happy - Jonah 4:5

Jonah became very angry

Jonah also burned with anger about a plant - Jonah 4:9

This was the kind of anger that caused Cain to kill Abel - Gen. 4:5-6

B. Lord just what I was afraid of, that You would show mercy - 4:2-3

Jonah prayed (complained) to the Lord

Jonah had prayed after three days in the fish - Jonah 2:1

Jonah certainly was not giving thanks - Jonah 2:9

Jonah told the Lord he knew God was gracious

Jonah was afraid God would be gracious to Nineveh - Jonah 3:10

Jonah said that is why he had paid the fare to Tarshish

Jonah wanted Nineveh to be judged -

Jonah said he knew God is a gracious God

Jonah knew that God is gracious - Ps. 103:8

Jonah said He knew God is a merciful God

Jonah knew that God is full of mercy - Ps. 86:15

Jonah said he knew God is slow to anger

Jonah knew that God is slow to anger - Ps. 145:8

Jonah said he knew God is abundant in lovingkindness

Jonah knew God has great lovingkindness - Ps. 89:28-33

Jonah said he knew God relents from doing harm

God relents from doing harm - Ps. 106:45

Jonah then gave his request to the Lord

Jonah asked the Lord to take his life from him

He had broken his vow in Jonah 2:9 - Eccles. 5:1-6

Jonah said it was better for him to die than to live

He did not want to see Nineveh spared - Jonah 4:5

C. Jonah is it right for you to be angry? - 4:4

The Lord gave a gentle answer to Jonah

The Lord asked if Jonah was right to be angry

Jonah said it was right for him to burn with anger - Jonah 4:1

D. Lord keep your word and give them what they deserve - 4:5

Jonah then went out of the city

Jonah wanted to see God destroy the city - Jonah 4:9

Jonah sat on the east side of the city

Jonah made a shelter for himself

Jonah thought only of his own pleasure - Prov. 21:17

Jonah sat in his shelter

Jonah waited to watch the Lord destroy the city

A very different attitude than Abraham - Gen. 18:23-32

E. Jonah let Me show you what judgment without mercy is like - 4:6-7

The Lord prepared a plant at that time

The Lord prepared the plant to come up over Jonah

The Lord made the plant to provide a shade for Jonah

The Lord made the plant to deliver Jonah from his misery

The Lord gave Jonah time to change his attitude - Matt. 5:7

The Lord saw that Jonah was grateful for the plant

This is the only time in Jonah that we read he was grateful

The Lord prepared a worm early the next morning

The Lord carefully prepared each detail - John 4:6, 7, 8

The Lord assigned the worm to damage the plant

To beat or to smite (used of Christ) - Is. 50:6

The Lord allowed the plant to wither

F. Lord just let me die - 4:8-9

The Lord waited until the sun arose

The Lord then sent a vehement east wind

(This is a very hot and dry east wind from the desert)

The Lord allowed the sun to beat on the head of Jonah

Used of the head of Jonah in the next verse - Jonah 4:9

The Lord watched as Jonah became faint

The heat caused Jonah to become faint - Amos 8:13

The Lord knew when Jonah wished for death for himself

Jonah was willing to beg for death - Ps. 105:40

The Lord asked Jonah if it was right for him to be angry about the plant

Jonah had a greater love for that plant than for people - Jonah 4:10-11

The Lord heard him say he should be angry, even to death

Jonah showed no repentance of his wrong attitude - II Cor. 7:10

G. Jonah you showed a great concern for the plant! - 4:10

The Lord reminded Jonah that he had pity on the plant
It is easy to focus on things instead of people - Mark 8:36-37
The Lord told Jonah he had not labored for the plant
Labor not for the things that perish - John 6:27
The Lord told Jonah that he did not make the plant grow
We cannot know how any plant grows - Mark 4:26-27
The Lord said the plant came up in a night
Plants and people can come and go in a night - Is. 40:6-8
The Lord said that the plant perished in a night
It is easy to focus on things that do not last - Gen. 3:6

H. Jonah I have a great love for the salvation of people - 4:11

The Lord said it was right for Him to have pity on Nineveh
Christ saw the multitudes and was moved with compassion - Matt. 9:36-38
The Lord said that Nineveh was a great city
Today more than half of the people in the world live in cities - Matt. 9:36
The Lord said Nineveh had 120,000 young children
Christ wants the children to come to Him - Luke 18:15-17
The Lord said that Nineveh also had much livestock

**The one evidence that Jonah
later repented of his lack of
Compassion**

**He wrote the book of Jonah
Jonah 1:1**

**“Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest
to send out laborers into His harvest.”
Matthew 9:38**