

Jonah

4:2 I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.

Jonah 1–2 No Escape Running Man

Jonah 3–4 No Compassion

Found Man

Jonah Cast Forth by Whale (1866) by Gustave Doré



Jonah in the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo 1475-1564

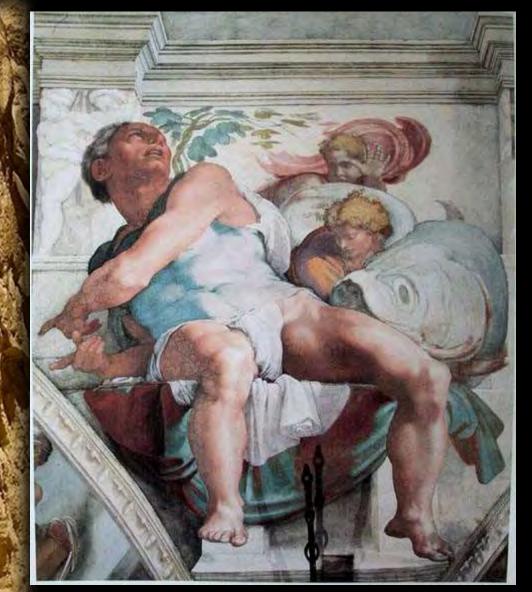
Alternate Title

Jonah the Prophet Who Could Not

Hagar the Horrible asks the Million-dollar question



Ask ... and yee shall receive ...



Jonah in the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo 1475-1564

Alternate Title #2

Jonah the

Found

Man

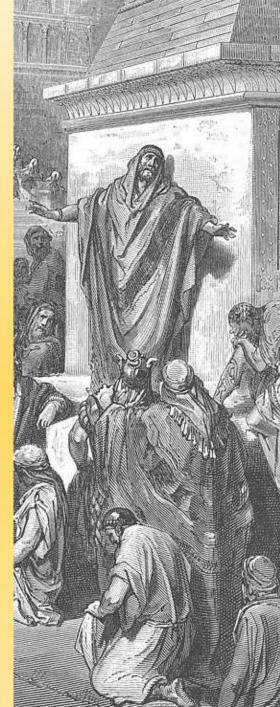
Jonah – Four Small Chapters

- 1 Jonah Runs
- **2** Jonah Prays
- 3 Jonah Goes
- 4 Jonah Grieves
- 1 The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai:

Running Man

Found Man

2 "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me."



3 But Jonah ran away from the LORD & headed for Tarshish.
He went down to Joppa,
where he found a ship bound for that port.

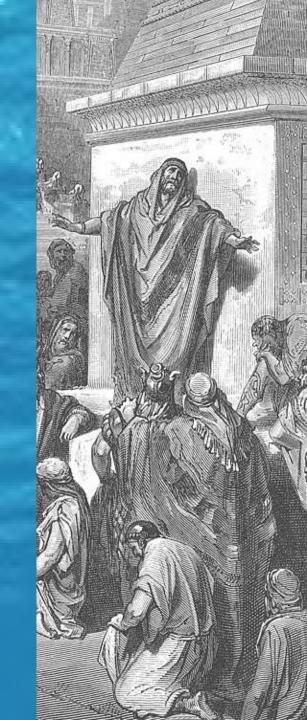
After paying the fare, he went aboard & sailed for Tarshish to FLEE from the LORD.





Flee ... Running Man to the **Known MANY Swallowed WHOLE** END of Many drowned in alcohol or drugs the World An illness, death, loss ... FEAR Drove them to the BRINK ... to edge of life ... Now, dear friends, beloved brothers & sisters NOW then ... you are prepared for **Jonah's Exquisitely Precious Prayer**

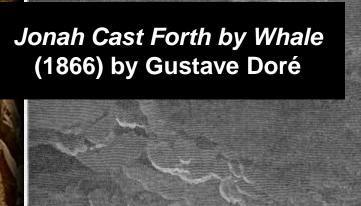
1 From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God. 2 He said: "In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry.

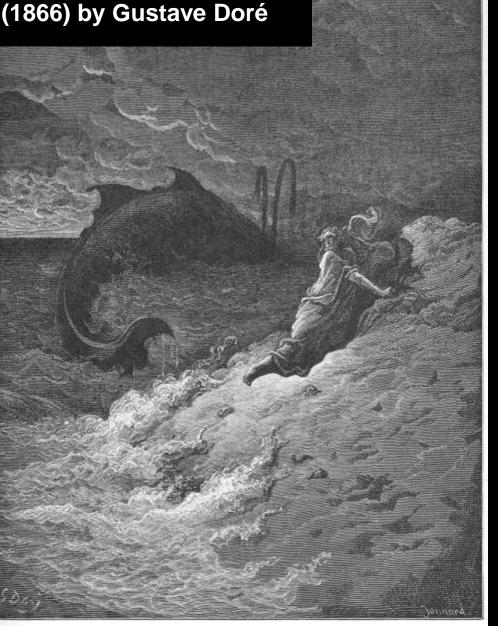


Jonah spent THREE DAYs in the belly We noted how SOME us ... too ... have been SWALLOWED whole by Troubles

We left Jonah @ 2:10 And the Lord commanded the fish and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

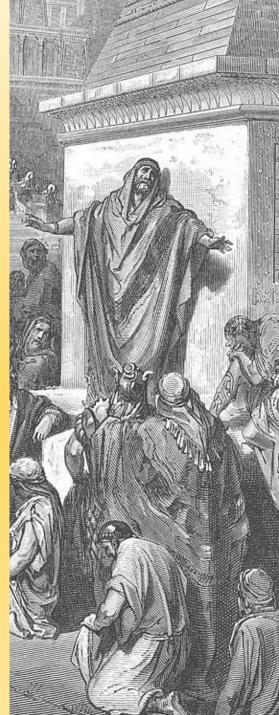
> Jonah & the Whale (1621) by Pieter Lastman





Jonah was then ... at that very moment ... a **Found Man** He had yielded to God Most of all ... He had come to himself **Ready for God's work** Running Man No More ... **Now Fearless** Yet he was always **BRAVE**

Chap 3 - Now on dry land ... after a Great Prayer Jonah ... the Found Man ¹ Word of the Lord came to Jonah 2nd time: 2 "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." **3 Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and** went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it.



Nineveh – Capital Assyrian Empire





Joppa is the oldest part of Tel Aviv today Where do you suppose God dropped Jonah? Joppa is 600+ miles to Nineveh > could shave off 250 miles if dropped *NORTH*

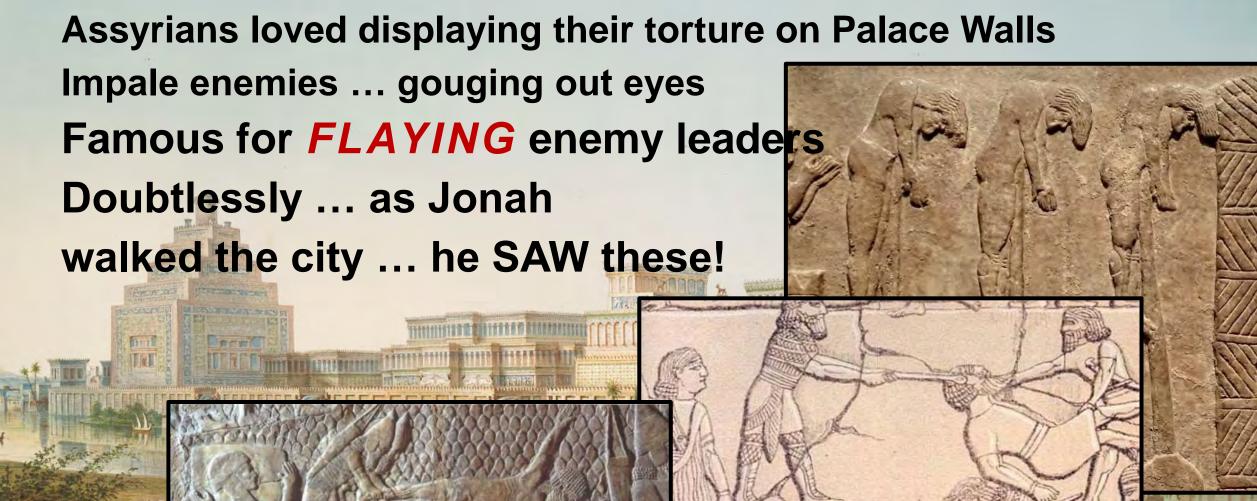
MANNEA Ancient region

3

300 Miles

500 Kilometres

Assyrian palaces of Nineveh by Sir Austen Henry Layard, 1853 Nineveh was largest city in the world in 8th to 7th century B.C. Made Capital by Sennacherib reigned 705-681 B.C.



Nineveh – Capital Assyrian Empire

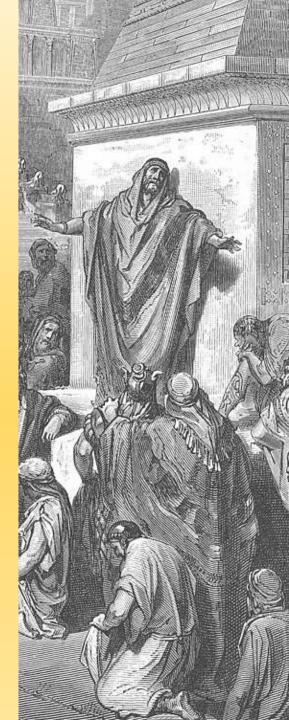
How did Jonah TRAVEL? Perhaps he picked up friend? Just so happens I have VIDEO Don't know HOW they got a Video of Jonah in c. 710 B.C.



Hey ... Looks Possible

I don't wanna rain on your...crazy parade, buddy,

Now on dry land ... after a Great Prayer ⁴ Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." ⁵ The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

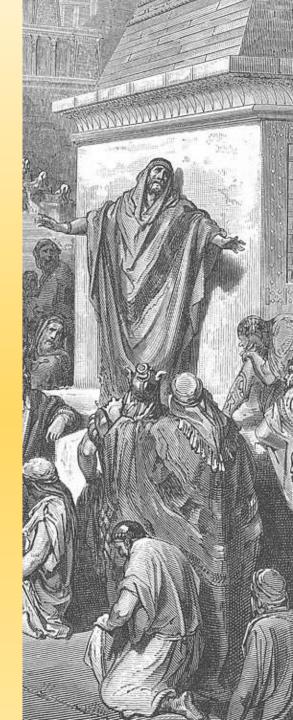




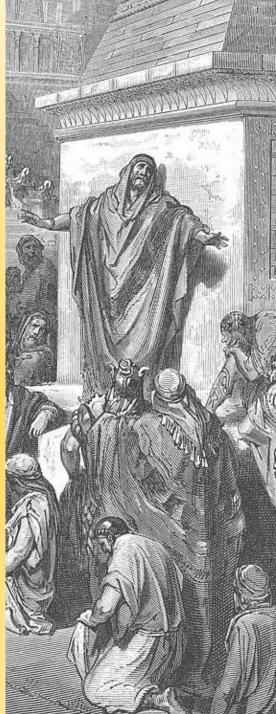
Jonah to the Ninevites (1866) by Gustave Doré 1832–1883



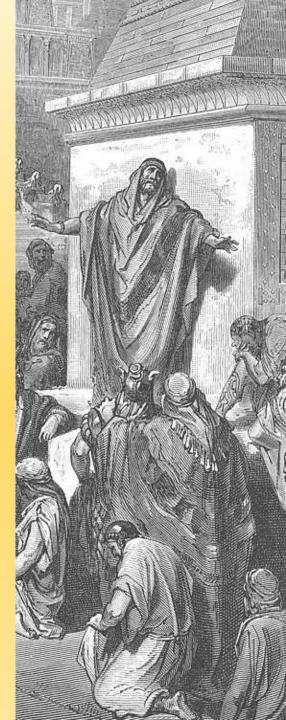
⁶ When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. ⁷ This proclamation he issued in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink.



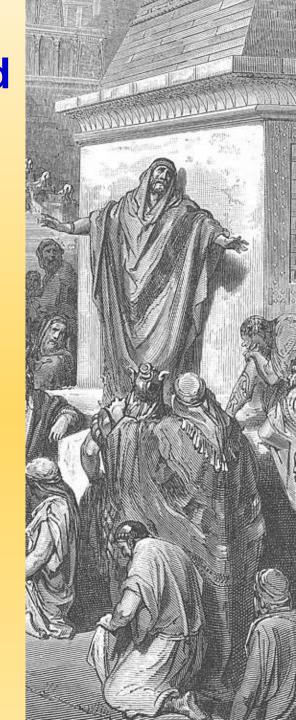
⁸ But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. ⁹ Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish." What turned the Assyrians away? Message from Jonah, God's Prophet



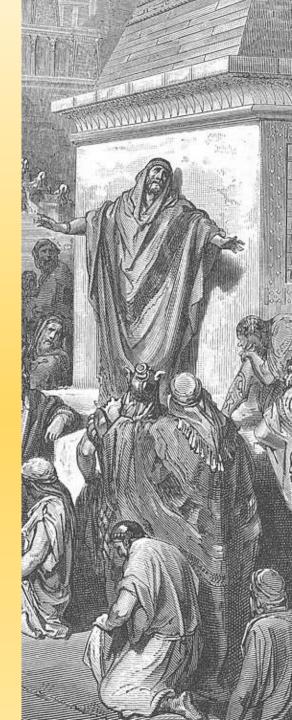
¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, God relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened. God had mercy ... changed his mind God granted them amnesty ... They did NOT Kill Jonah ... Unlike Amos who was told to leave Israel Jonah was HEARD ... words of GOD Heard



¹ But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord, "Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. LOT here ... remember Jonah 1:10 ... Sailors reminded Jonah that had told them "He was running away from the Lord"



Given the nature of Assyria bloodshed WE ourselves might NOT want mercy **One point often MISSED in the story is Psalms** We LOVE Psalm 23 ... Lord is my Shepherd Psalm 139 ... Where can I go from thy spirit **But we all too often AVOID many Psalms** We like to PRAY the good ... nice ones Yet ... somehow ... we tend NOT to believe Not to Believe a Few



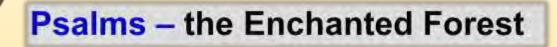
We avoid like a plague Psalm 139:19-23

- ¹⁹ Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.
- ²⁰ For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain.
- ²¹Do not I HATE them, O LORD, that HATE thee? and am not I grieved with those

that rise up against thee?

²² I HATE them with *Perfect* HATRED: I count them mine enemies.

Psalms – the Enchanted Forest "Psalms" – means "Hymns of Praise" "Psalms" comes from Latin from Greek translating Hebrew Book of Psalms is a Hymnbook ... a book of SONGS **OVER** Dates: Moses d. 1571 B.C. (or 1271) to Nehemiah c. 444 B.C. 1,000 yrs ÷. Chronologically, we see Heman, 88 ... Ethan, 89 Moses, 90 **Babylonian Captivity, 102** David, 2-41, 51-65, 68-70, 86, Unknown, 1, 66, 71, 91-100, 104-107, 111-101, 103, 108-110, 122, 124, 121, 123, 125, 126, 128-130, 134-137, 146-150 131, 133, 138-145 Songs of Degrees, Ascent, 120-134 (going up to Jerusalem during Nehemiah) Asaph, 50, 73-83 Sons of Korah, 42-49, Most stats from New Analytical Bible, Dickson Pub., 84, 85, 87 (88? or Heman) 1973 (1st 1931); Encyclopedia Judaica, Easton Bible Dictionary



At Least 8 Categories of Psalms ... 1 thru 7 8th Imprecatory Psalms 5, 6, 11, 12, 35, 37, 40, 52, 54, 56, 58, 69, 79, 83, 109, 137, 139, 143

Whaaaattt IS Imprecatory?

Imprecatory asks for judgment, calamity, or curses on one's enemies ... on enemies of God As in Psalm 69:24,

"Pour out Your indignation on them, and let Your burning anger overtake them"



8th Imprecatory Psalms 5, 6, 11, 12, 35, 37, 40, 52, 54, 56, 58, 69, 79, 83, 109, 137, 139, 143

Ready for WORST verse in the ENTIRE Bible?

Psalm 137:9, "Happy shall he be, that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones."

Don't take 137 out of context of Condemning Babylon STILL – "Happy?" – "BLESSED?" > *Killing Babies??*



In the Book of Psalms ... 150 in all 116 Psalms superscriptions, or special descriptions In those 116, 100 have names 73 Psalms have "David" ... yet, hear ye, hear ye While all 73 might have been authored by David Many may have been "TO" or "FOR" David – or ALL by him Likewise, many OTHER Psalms could have been written by David FACT: "to, for, by David" ... could have been OTHER authors too 2 Sam. 23:1 – David, "Sweet psalmist of Israel" **73 Davidic Psalms** 3 to 9, 11 to 32, 34 to 41, 68 to 70, 51 to 65, 101, 86, 103, 108 to 110, 124, 122, 133, 131 and 138 to 145.

Treasury of David, http://archive.spurgeon.org/treasury/treasury.php

Intriguing – The Great Psalms Scroll 1946 the first of 972 Dead Sea Scrolls in Qumran 1956, 10 yrs later, Great Psalms Scroll in Cave 11 **Great Psalms Scroll praises King David's works** Astounding—David authored 3,600 psalms plus 364 for each day, 52 weeklies, 30 for sacrifices Boldly claiming David authored upward of 4,050!



Great Psalms Scroll 13.9 FEET

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Intriguing – No Surprise then David – means "Beloved"

There is only one David in the Bible The shepherd, slayer of Goliath, King David No other person in the Bible is named David Only one "Beloved" in the Bible ...

Great Psalmist of Israel—David

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Great Psalms Scroll from the Dead Sea, circa A.D. 30-50

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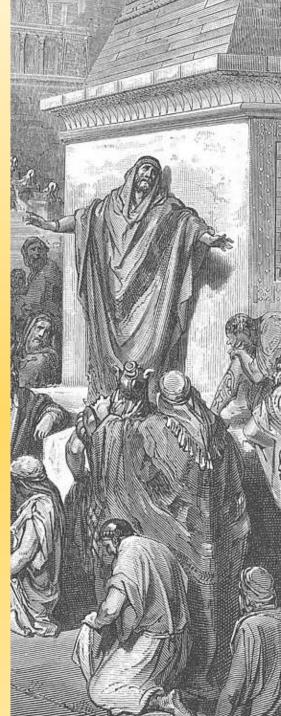
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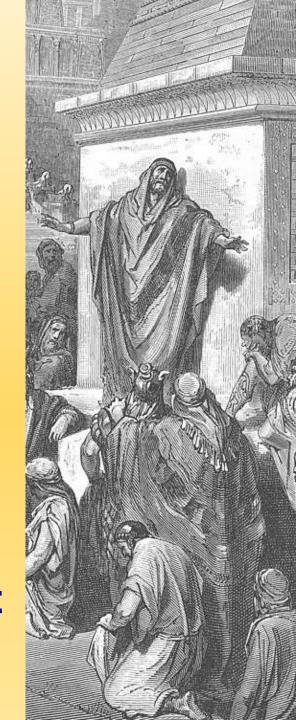
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David wrote c. 990 B.C. ... Jonah c. 725 B.C. Roughly 250 years ... in a land where ... **NO ONE was FULLY keeping the God's Law No Leviticus Festivals ... yet we KNOW Psalms of David survived** Imprecatory Psalms 5, 6, 11, 12, 35, 37, 40, 52, 54, 56, 58, 69, 79, 83, 109, 137, 139, 143 Do NOT want to be a killjoy ... a depressor **But David Wrote of 10 of 18:** 5, 6, 11, 35, 37, 40, 69, 109, 139, 143



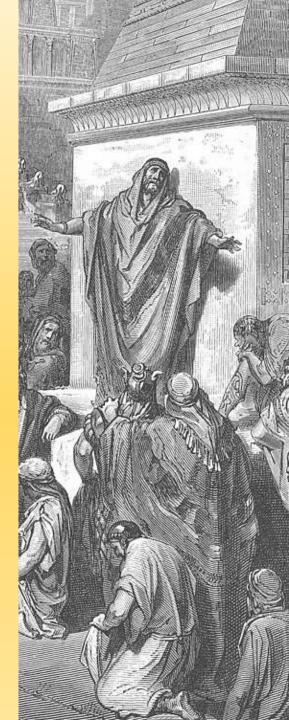
David had some very BAD Days too ... **Times in which he felt Swallowed Whole Psalm 5:10 "Destroy thou them, O God;** let them fall by their own counsels" Psalm 11:6 "Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest" Psalm 35-5-6 "Let them be as chaff before the wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase them. Let their way be dark ... let the angel of the LORD persecute them.



Jonah was in GOOD company with David When he didn't want mercy for Evil Assyria **One lesson here is LESS of Jonah and MORE about God** Jonah landed on the west coast of Asia Minor Tired, bleached, 300-plus miles to go **NOW HEAR THIS ... many GOOD** Sermons on Jonah RUNNING from God Yet ... there is a GREATER Message



Jonah was in GOOD company with David Jonah could have been PRAYING some of the imprecatory Psalms on the way to **Tarshish** Dry Land, Tired ... 300-plus miles to go **NOW HEAR THIS ... many GOOD Sermons** Many on Jonah RUNNING from God Then there is also ... wait for it ... Then there is the Jesus Version





What did Jonah DO?

God NEVER says that Jonah was WRONG Moreover, Jonah so dedicated to TRUTH 000 What Did Jonah DO? Read the story ... feel the waves ... Hear the thunder ... SEE the Sailors' FEAR What did Jonah DO? ...

Jonah Gave His LIFE to Save Strangers

What did GOD do?

God SAVED Jonah ... SAVED his LIFE In whale ... Jonah & God MET ... While in the tomb,

Jesus descended into the abyss When Jesus rose from the grave ... Grave, like the Whale, could not HOLD HIM Risen Jesus walked about & preached

Like Nineveh, God gave US a 2nd Chance Who did NOT deserve it – just BELIEVE



Jonah is HONEST with God too ... ² I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. JESUS asked, "IF ... take this cup from me" ³ Jonah, "Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to DIE than to live." ⁴ But the Lord replied, "Is it right for you to be angry?"



⁵Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place EAST of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶ Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant.

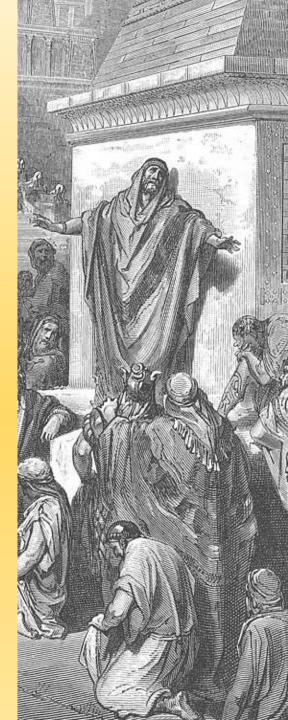


⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching EAST wind, and the SUN blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to DIE, and said, "It would be better for me to DIE than to LIVE."

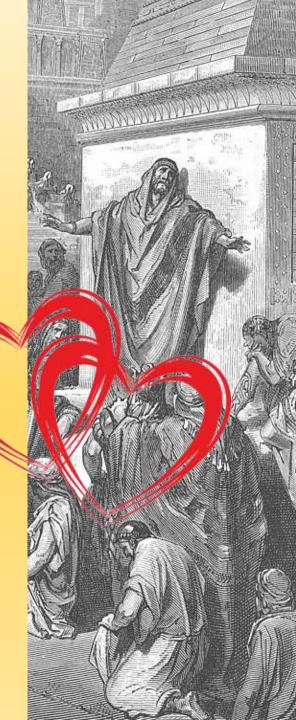


Few seem to SEE the STRESS of Jonah Many want to see him RUNNING from God God did NOT see that ... God saw JONAH's PAIN ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" *"IT IS!"* Jonah said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were DEAD." Please, do NOT miss this verse ... the **PAIN** GOD saw Jonah's PAIN ... did NOT Scorn Jonah

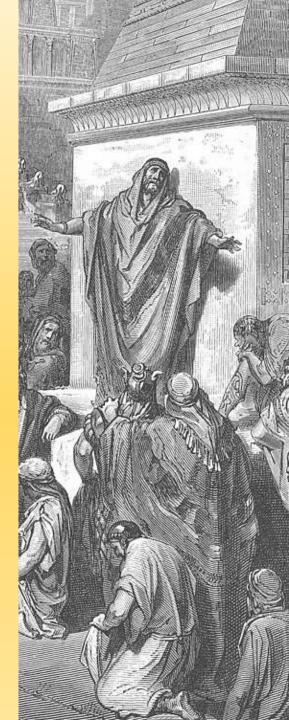
So angry ... so down ... so distressed **Jonah wanted to DIE** Do NOT miss the utter *pathos* ... the *pain* Many lessons on Jonah running – *he did run* But I do not believe it was REBELLION I do NOT believe Jonah was totally WRONG God did NOT scold or correct Jonah **INSTEAD—God MET Jonah where he HURT** Then just as Jonah asserted ... Jonah said



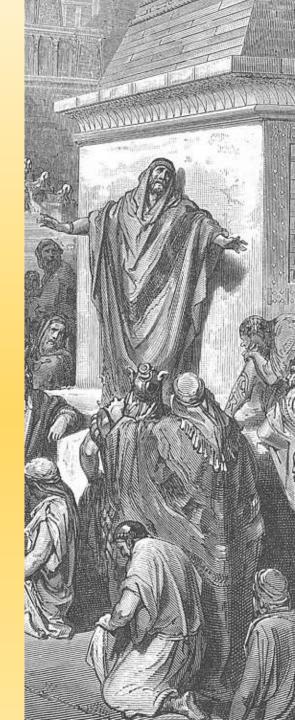
God very kindly ... gently ... as a friend as Abba - Father - Daddy **God performed another miracle to WHAT?** To gently bring Jonah's HEART around ... ¹⁰ But the Lord said, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight & died overnight. Kind Gentle Fatherly



Jonah got ANGRY over PLANT Funny ... but a VERY LARGE ISSUE arises Jonah is FOUND ... by God ... by HIMSELF Jonah is SEEING his own blindness Blindness to God's MERCY ... yeah Larger ... but MUCH MUCH MUCH MORE Jonah wanted to DIE ... rather than see **Nineveh SAVED** Listen CLOSE ... God UNDERSTOOD that!



Jonah WAS RIGHT ... Assyrians were ... **Were Pagan Vicious Evil** God KNEW Jonah's PAIN ... Jonah – SERIOUSLY – wanted to **DIE AFTER Sparing Nineveh ... with a PLANT** With a Plant ... God MOVED Jonah's Heart **Please do not miss TWO things** 1. Do NOT Miss **DEPTH** of Jonah's **PAIN** 2. Do NOT Miss *DEPTH* of God's *LOVE* **For Jonah**



Greatest miracle is the moving of **Jonah's HEART** Now read last verses of this precious book ¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh in which are more than a 120,000 people who cannot tell their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Greatest miracle is the moving of Jonah's HEART That is the Gospel too ... The GREATEST Miracle of ALL How God changes our HEARTS ... **Reconciles US to Himself thru Christ** Read Jonah now ... NOT as a Running Man

Nor so much as the Saving of Nineveh ... Nor even as GOD Saving Jonah from a Fish But God tenderly Saving Jonah's HEART