

Overview of chapter one

7-9-2016

- Jonah is instructed by the Lord to go to Nineveh to warn them about their wickedness.
- Jonah disobeys and tries to flee to Tarshish.
- The lord sends a terrible storm that puts everyone on the ship in danger.
- Jonah is found out, through the casting of lots, as the trouble maker.
- Jonah is thrown into the water, the storm wanes, the crew on the ship make a vow to the true God and there is true salvation on the ship.
- The lord prepares a fish to swallow Jonah who is in there for three days and three nights.

Jonah Chapter 2

14-9-2016

Verse 1

- Jonah finally returned to the Lord in his time of need. He prayed to the LORD **(the merciful one, the redeemer, the saviour, the Messiah)**
- The LORD of the deep, the Lord of the earth, the lord of the universe!
- From the fish's belly **(the grave, death, separation, despair, stench, suffering, darkness, hell).**

Verse 2

Jonah quoted from the scriptures!

Psalms 3:4

I cried to the LORD with my voice, And He heard me from His holy hill. Selah

Psalms 120:1

In my distress I cried to the LORD, And He heard me.

- Everything he had read from before in the Psalms, in God's word finally returned to him.
- The word comforted him in his time of need and trouble.
- Jonah had faith that God would hear him and help him.

- *Where did he get the faith?*

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Does the word of the Lord comfort you in your time of need?

Are you reading it?

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Luke 11:28

But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

"Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, And You heard my voice.

- It doesn't matter how far we stray. There is no height, no depth, no place we could ever go where the lord wouldn't hear us.

Verse 3

- Jonah is still quoting the Psalms.

Psalms 42:7

Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls; All Your waves and billows have gone over me.

- When the Lord casts you into the deep, do you look at it as spiritual warfare or chastisement?
- For you cast me **(threw me, tossed me)** in the deep **(hopelessness, death, despair, separation)**.
- The mariners may have physically thrown Jonah into the sea but it was ultimately the Lord's doing.
- And the floods **(torrents, streams, tides, currents within the sea)**
- Surrounded me **(buried, covered, overwhelmed, overpowered me)**.

- All Your billows (**surges, rushes of the flood, violence, horror, terrors from God's hand**)
- And your waves passed over me.
- His soul was distressed as much as his body being tossed around with eminent death looming.

Verse 4

- Then I said, 'I have been cast out (**removed, separated, thrown out**)
- Of your sight (**splendour, shadow, glory, protection, majesty, righteousness, holiness**)
- Yet (**a change in heart**) I will look (**turn to, rely, depend**) again
- Toward Your holy temple (**glory, place of refuge and strength, home**)
- *Why did he look toward God's holy temple?*

1Kings 8:1

Now Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the City of David, which is Zion.

1Kings 8:29 "that Your eyes may be open toward this temple night and day, toward the place of which You said, 'My name shall be there,' that You may hear the prayer which Your servant makes toward this place.

1Kings 8:30 "And may You hear the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. Hear in heaven Your dwelling place; and when You hear, forgive.

1Kings 8:38

"whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows the plague of his own heart, and spreads out his hands toward this temple:

1Kings 8:39

"then hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and act, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of all the sons of men),

1Kings 8:40

"that they may fear You all the days that they live in the land which You gave to our fathers.

- Jonah continues to draw strength from the scriptures.
- He prays basing on what was written.

Verse 5

- The waters surround me (**overwhelm, overpower, cover me**)
- Even to my soul (**He is overcome physically and spiritually**)
- Weeds were wrapped around my head (**a vivid picture, painted by the writer, of the dire situation, the terror and horror**).
- Some equate the weeds covering his head to being wrapped in burial clothes.

Verse 6

Jonah 2:6

at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me for ever; yet thou didst bring up my life from the Pit, O LORD my God. (RSV)

- As he was swallowed by the fish, He felt like he went down to the roots, the foundation of the mountains, so deep beyond reach.
- He felt like he was being imprisoned forever with no return to the earth.
- Yet, the very thing that seemed to draw him deeper into the bottomless pit, the abyss, turned out to be his salvation.
- Yet you brought my life from the pit (**rescued me from death, darkness and despair**).
- You have given my life **SALVATION!**
- O LORD (**saviour, redeemer, Messiah, Jehovah**)
- My God (**my father, creator, my all in all**).

Verse 7

- When my soul fainted within me (**weak, exhausted, lacking in strength, fatigued, worn out, lacking spirit, fearful, lacking courage, timid, fainthearted**).
- I remembered (**recollected, kept in mind, and looked back to**).
- He had history with the Lord to look back to.
- He had a relationship to fall back on.
- A reference point.
- Do you have any of the above mentioned with God?

- The LORD. This name belongs to God alone. **(The preeminent one, second to none, unequalled, matchless, the King of kings, supreme, sovereign ruler, The Messiah).**
- Jehovah. The word LORD, in the English Bible, when printed in small capitals, stands always for JEHOVAH in the Hebrew.
- And my prayer went up to you. **(Our prayers never fail to reach the Lord, no matter where we are).**
- To your holy temple. **(The temple in Jerusalem to which Jonah looked but ultimately to heaven, the kingdom of glory).**
- Do we constantly look to heaven?
- Do we yearn for it?

Verse 8

- Those who regard worthless idols **(Useless, dead idols, false gods like the ones worshiped by the mariners).**
- Forsake their own mercy. **(Reject, abandon, desert, surrender)** their own mercy **(grace, forgiveness, hope, kindness).**
- Mercy from whom?

Verse 9

- But I will sacrifice **(offer up, generously give to, surrender)**
- To You **(no one else. For HE alone is worthy)**
- With the voice **(the attitude)** of thanksgiving **(gratitude, appreciation, indebtedness).**
- I will pay **(settle, honour, foot, meet, square accounts)**
- What I have vowed **(promised, pledged, sworn, resolved).**
- Salvation **(the power to save, deliverance, redemption, election, grace)**
- Is of the LORD **(from, by and only through Jehovah).**

Verse 10

- So the LORD **(all knowing, omnipresent, powerful, creator, YAHWEH)**
- Spoke to the fish **(commanded the fish, His creation)**
- And it vomited **(brought up, throw up, ejected, RESURRECTED)**
- Jonah onto dry land **(safety, redemption, new beginning, second chance).**