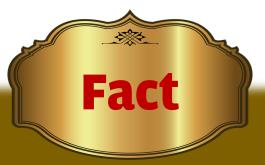
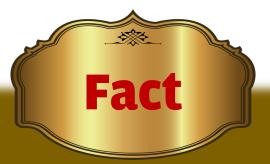
The Book of Jonah An Overview

A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the Prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgement with this generation and condemn it; for they **repented** at the preaching of Jonah, and now One greater than Jonah is here.

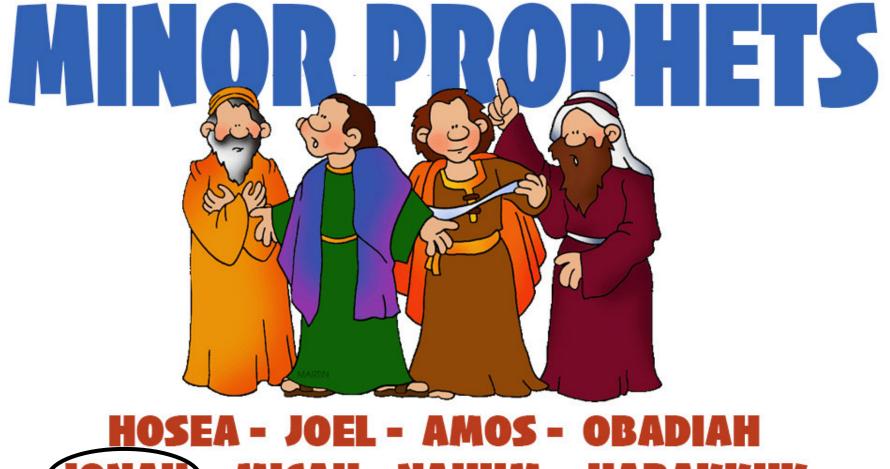
Mt 12:38-41



Jonah was a prophet sent by God to call sinners to repent and turn to God.



Jesus, the Son of Man, came to seek and to save the lost.



HOSEA - JOEL - AMOS - OBADIAH JONAH - MICAH - NAHUM - HABAKKUK ZEPHANIAH - HAGGAI - ZECHARIAH - MALACHI



You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.

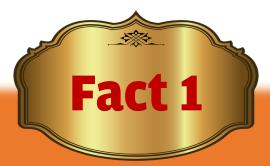


Opener: The word of the LORD came to Jonah, son of Amittai (1:1)

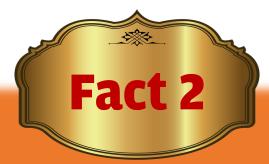
Charge: Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before Me (1:2)

Reaction: But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish (1:3)

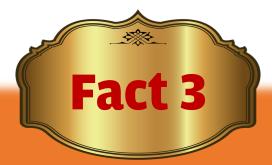




Jonah was a Hebrew.



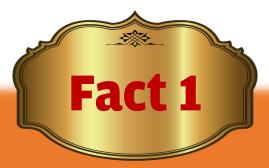
Jonah's God was the God of heaven who made the sea.



Jonah was fleeing from God.

They cried to the LORD, "O LORD, please do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, O LORD, have done as You pleased."

Jon 1:14



The sailors greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to Him (v.16)



God provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights (v.17)

Inside the darkness of the belly of the fish, Jonah saw the light.

In my distress I called to the LORD, and He answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and You listened to my cry. You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all Your waves and breakers swept over me. I said, "I have been banished from Your sight; yet I will look again toward Your holy temple."



The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. To the roots of the mountains, I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But You brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God. When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to Your holy temple. Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs. But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD."



Thematic Verse

Salvation belongs to the LORD!

Opener: Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time (3:1). Implication: God is the God of the second chance.

Result: Jonah went to Nineveh.

Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from His fierce anger so that we will not perish.

Jon 3:9

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, He had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction He had threatened.



Opener: Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time (3:1). Implication: God is the God of the second chance.

Result: Jonah went to Nineveh.

Theme: God will always respond in love, grace, and mercy when people repent of their sins.

Jonah was angry with God (4:1).

O LORD, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.

Jon 4:2

Jonah was angry with God (4:1).

God responded with a question: Have you any right to be angry? (4:4)

Jonah reacted childishly.

He went out and sat down at a place east of the city and made himself a shelter, sat in its shade, and waited to see what would happen to the city.



Jonah was angry with God (4:1).

God responded with a question: Have you any right to be angry? (4:4)

Jonah reacted childishly.

God responded graciously.

Then the LORD God provided a vine and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the vine.



Jonah was angry with God (4:1).

God responded with a question: Have you any right to be angry? (4:4)

Jonah reacted childishly.

God responded graciously. God responded reasonably.

You have been concerned about this vine, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight.



But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city?





1. God is sovereign

2. No one can flee from God's Presence

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to You.

Ps 139:7-12



- 1. God is sovereign
- 2. No one can flee from God's Presence
- 3. You can call on God in your direst circumstance

I sought the LORD, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to Him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; He saved him out of all his troubles.





- 1. God is sovereign
- 2. No one can flee from God's Presence
- 3. You can call on God in your direst circumstance
- 4. You must submit to God's sovereign will