

JONAH

Reluctant Prophet. Relentless God.

Jonah 1:17- 2:10 (Pg. 925)

Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to him.

Now the Lord provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God. 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. You hurled me into the depths, 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, LORD my God, brought my life up
from the pit.**

“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 turn away from God’s love for them. But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’”

And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

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Jonah Going Down

1:3 “went down to Joppa”

“went down into it” [the ship]

1:5 “gone down into inner part of ship”

“lain down”

fell “fast asleep”

1:7 The sailors “cast [down] lots”

“the lot fell [down] on Jonah”

1:15 The sailors “hurled him [down] into the sea”

2:3 “you cast me into the deep” [*on the surface of the water*]

2:5a “waters closed [down] over me [*in midst of the sea*]

2:5d “at the roots of the mountains” [*the sea bottom*]

2:6 “down to land whose bars closed upon me forever” “the pit”



[Jonah is in “*Sheol*,” the lowest point he could possibly go]

**Bottom is a great
place to see God!**

Running to God means...

Seeing my own Sinfulness

Seeing my own Powerlessness

Seeing God's Incredible Grace

Seeing a New Beginning

Running to God means...

Seeing my own sinfulness

Jonah 2:1-4

***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.

You hurled me into the depths,

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'

Running to God means...

Seeing my own Powerlessness

Running to God means...

Seeing my own Powerlessness

Jonah 2:5-7

***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...
my life was ebbing away***

Running to God means...

Seeing my own Powerlessness

“We perceive that only through utter defeat are we able to take our first steps toward liberation and strength. Our admissions of personal powerlessness finally turn out to be firm bedrock upon which happy and purposeful lives may be built.” (AA, Step One)

Running to God means...

Seeing God's Incredible Grace

Verse 4: “yet I will look again toward your holy temple.”

Verse 6: “But you, LORD my God, brought my life up from the pit.”

Verse 7: “When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.”

Verse 8,9: “Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God’s love for them. But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’”

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1 Kings 8:30

“Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.”

Jonah 2:8,9:

“Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God’s love* for them.”

*** Hebrew word “Hesed” means “unfailing love, loyal love, costly covenant love.” It’s the OT equivalent for grace. God’s relentless desire to pour out his kindness on us.**

Running to God means...

Seeing a New Beginning

Jonah 2:10

And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

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Running to God means...

Seeing my own Sinfulness

Seeing my own Powerlessness

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