



Introduction and Chapter 1:

God's Call
The Storm

What kind of writing is the book of Jonah?

Elements to watch for

Recurring words

(may be highlighted or hidden - depending on translation)

Recurring situations

Jonah and Gentiles reacting in faith (or not)

Worship, prayer, and action (often not in harmony)

Call from God, repentance, mercy

Recurring themes

God's power, God's will, God's mercy

Irony!

things not happening as we would expect – for a point

Geographical / Historical Context

Events: ~790 BC (Israel will be conquered by Assyria 722 BC)

Jonah: Son of Amittai “the Prophet from Gath Hepher” II Kings 14:25

“Sign of Jonah” Matthew 12:39, 16:4; Luke 11:29

+ 3 days / nights in the fish / earth

+ repentance of Gentiles speaking condemnation on Israel

Outline

1:1	Word of Yahweh comes to Jonah	3:1	Word of Yahweh comes to Jonah
1:2	Content of the Word	3:2	Content of the Word
1:3	Response of Jonah	3:3-4	Response of Jonah
1:4-5	Gentile Response	3:5	Gentile Response
1:6	Action of the captain	3:6-10a	Action of the king
1:7-15	Sailors and Jonah	3:10b	Ninevites and Yahweh
1:15	Disaster averted	3:10c	Disaster averted
1:16	Response of sailors	4:1	Response of Jonah
1:17-2:9	Yahweh and Jonah	4:2-3	Yahweh and Jonah
2:10	Yahweh's Response	4:4-11	Yahweh's Response

1:1 “The Word of the Lord came to Jonah...”

Compare the beginning of Jonah with Isaiah through Malachi.

1:1 “Jonah son of Amittai” - the only context given

We may be expected to know the background: II Kings 14:25

All about a wicked king of Israel

– through whom God brought great prosperity to Israel

How might that background serve as foreshadowing here?

The only named individuals in the book are Jonah and Yahweh.

What does this suggest for the purpose of the book for us?

1:2 Nineveh

Sennacherib (704 – 681 BC) made Nineveh the capital city

of the Assyrian Empire a few decades after Jonah’s visit

The ruins of Nineveh are across the Tigris River from modern day Mosul

1:3 down to Joppa

Southwest - where’s Nineveh?

To get on a ship - where’s Nineveh?

To Tarshish – where?

To flee the presence of the Lord

Where is God?

-omnipresent

-sacramental presence

1:4-5 The Storm

Where is Jonah?

Where are the sailors?

What are they doing?



God’s actions in (1:4) The storm / (1:7) The “lots”

What surprises you? What does not?

Are the sailors followers of Yahweh?

Compare v6, 14, 16

Is Jonah a follower of Yahweh?

Compare v9, 10

How are these themes present in Chapter 1: Creation; Irony; God’s Mercy