



Chapter 3:

God calls... again

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

Greater than it seems on the surface...

- + 3 days / nights in the fish / earth
- + repentance of Gentiles speaking condemnation on Israel
- + salvation

In the Scriptures, what is signified by “the Sea” and “Dry Land”

2:10, 1:9, 1:13, Genesis 1:9, 8:14

Outline of Jonah

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

Jonah 1

The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: 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 and headed for Tarshish.

Jonah 3

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second 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.

Why does Jonah obey?

From “dry land” up to Nineveh

is a journey of at least a month

depending on where the fish deposited Jonah



Why does Jonah preach to Nineveh?

- Faith – born of the near death experience
- Faith – born of God's salvation
- Obedience – realization that running is futile
- Anticipation – of Nineveh's destruction

Compare Jonah's sermon to the Ninevites with his sermon to the sailors:

"Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." 3:4

"I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you." 1:9,12

Why "40 days"?

"overthrown / changed" Genesis 19:25, Deuteronomy 23:6, I Samuel 10:9, Jeremiah 31:13

Compare the response of the sailors and the Ninevites – including their leaders

*"Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish." 1:6
At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to Him. 1:16*

...he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. ⁷ This is the 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." 3:6-9

Does it matter why Jonah preached to the Ninevites?

Is the Sermon effective because of Jonah's motives?

What about our motives for proclaiming God today?

When are we like Jonah?

What does "When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened." (3:10) mean for us (and our prayers) today?

