

Jonah 1:1-17 **Jonah Sent – Fled From God – Swallowed By Great Fish**

Jonah's Disobedience

1 Now the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me."

3 But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh (the Lord). He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh (the Lord).

The Storm at Sea

4 But Yahweh (the Lord) sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up.

5 Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep.

6 So the captain came to him, and said to him, "What do you mean, sleeper? Arise, call on Eloheyka (your God); perhaps Haa'-Elohiym (your God) will consider us, so that we may not perish."

7 And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this trouble has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.

8 Then they said to him, "Please tell us! For whose cause is this trouble upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?"

9 So he said to them, "I am a Hebrew; and I fear Yahweh Elohey (the Lord, the God) of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

Jonah Thrown into the Sea – The mariners prayer and conversion. Yahweh is the true God of Creation

10 Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of Yahweh (the Lord), because he had told them.

11 Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?" — for the sea was growing more tempestuous.

12 And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest is because of me."

13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to land, but they could not, for the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them.

14 Therefore they cried out to Yahweh (the Lord) and said, "We pray, O Yahweh (Lord), please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for You, O Lord, have done as it pleased You."

15 So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging.

16 Then the men feared Yahweh (the Lord) exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to Yahweh (the Lord) and took vows.

Yahweh rescued Jonah

17 Now Yahweh (the Lord) had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

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Facts Revealed:

Jonah's Disobedience [Jonah 1:1-3]

- ✧ Nineveh Is in Assyria on the banks of the Tigris River 560 miles North East of Israel, enemy territory to Israelis.
- ✧ Yahweh commanded Jonah to go and warn the people of Nineveh that wrath of God is coming because of their wickedness before Him.
- ✧ Jonah did not want to take the message to enemy lands because he feared that they might repent and be saved. [Jonah 4:1-2]
- ✧ Fleeing from Yahweh, Jonah headed by ship from Joppa on the sea coast west of Jerusalem going North West to Tarshish located on the north shore of the Mediterranean Sea.

The Storm at Sea [Jonah 1:4-9]

- ✧ Yahweh uses things of the earth to get our attention, so He sent a great storm so fierce the mariners feared for their lives.
- ✧ The mariners turned in prayer to their gods and called for Jonah to do the same.
- ✧ Jonah knew that the storm was on his account so he told the mariners he was a Hebrew believer in Yahweh Elohey the Creator of the earth and the sea and that he was fleeing from the presence of Yahweh.

Jonah Thrown into the Sea [Jonah 1:10-16]

- ✧ Not wanting to offend Yahweh the mariners attempted to save themselves but to no avail. Their efforts failed and things were getting worse,
- ✧ They asked Jonah what to do to save themselves.
- ✧ Jonah said to throw him into the sea would save the ship and themselves.
- ✧ After struggling more with no hope in sight, they cried out to Yahweh not wanting to be guilty of innocent blood.
- ✧ Then they threw Jonah into the sea and the storm ceased.
- ✧ With evidence like that, the mariners were convinced and feared Yahweh exceedingly offering Yahweh sacrifices and taking vows.

Yahweh rescued Jonah [Jonah 4:17]

- ✧ Yahweh had known what would happen and had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah, He brought the fish to the exact spot where Jonah would splash down in the sea and it became a living submarine, keeping Jonah three days and three nights safe in its belly.
- ✧ This fish was not like any fish in the oceans today because it was a special creation for the specific occasion.