

“Pay Attention To The One Greater  
Than Jonah”

Matthew 12:38-41; Jonah

Easter 4-5-2026

- I. Jonah \_\_\_\_\_ to  
Ninevah to preach to the \_\_\_\_\_. But Jesus  
\_\_\_\_\_ to earth to preach  
to the lost.

“The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai:  
“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it,  
because its wickedness has come up before me.” But  
Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish.  
He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound  
for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and  
sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.”

**Jonah 1:1-3 (NIV)**

- ❖ Anytime you disobey God you are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and there will be a \_\_\_\_\_  
to pay.

“Good judgment wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful  
leads to their destruction.”

**Proverbs 13:15 (NIV)**

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

**Luke 19:10 (NIV)**

- II. Jonah and the sailors were in danger of losing their lives  
because of Jonah’s sin. We and all people are in danger  
of losing our \_\_\_\_\_ because of  
\_\_\_\_\_.

“Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a  
violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break  
up... Then the sailors said to each other, “Come, let us  
cast lots to find out who is responsible for this  
calamity.” They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.”

**Jonah 1:4,7 (NIV)**

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one  
man, and death through sin, and in this way death came  
to all people, because all sinned—”

**Romans 5:12 (NIV)**

- III. The sailors could not calm the storm and save their  
lives by their own human effort, and we cannot have  
peace and save our souls through our own  
\_\_\_\_\_.

“Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But  
they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than  
before.”

**Jonah 1:13 (NIV)**

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—  
and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not  
by works, so that no one can boast.”

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)**

“he saved us, not because of righteous things we had  
done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through  
the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,”

**Titus 3:5 (NIV)**

- IV. Jonah told the sailors that the only way the sea could be  
calmed and they could live was for him to die. The Bible  
says to us that the only way we can have peace and live  
eternally was for \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

““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.””

**Jonah 1:12 (NIV)**

“You see, at just the right time, when we were still  
powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.”

**Romans 5:6 (NIV)**

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that  
in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

**2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)**

- V. Jonah was swallowed by a great fish and remained in its belly for 3 days and 3 nights. Jesus was swallowed up in \_\_\_\_\_ and placed in a \_\_\_\_\_ for 3 days and 3 nights.

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

**Jonah 1:17 (NIV)**

“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.”

**Matthew 12:40 (NIV)**

- VI. Johan came out of the great fish alive at the command of God. Jesus came out of the \_\_\_\_\_ at the command of God.

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

**Jonah 2:10 (NIV)**

“The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross.”

**Acts 5:30 (NIV)**

“and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.”

**1 Corinthians 15:5-8 (NIV)**

- VIII. After coming out of the big fish, Jonah still reluctantly preached God’s message to the Ninevites and they believed God and were shown mercy. We gladly preach God’s message of mercy and salvation in the \_\_\_\_\_ for all to \_\_\_\_\_!

““Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” The Ninevites believed God... 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.”

**Jonah 3:4b-5a, 10 (NIV)**

“God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe... but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,”

**1 Corinthians 1:21b, 23 (NIV)**

“As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,” he said.”

**Acts 17:2-3 (NIV)**