

“HEAR, O ISRAEL: THE LORD OUR
GOD, THE LORD IS ONE! YOU
SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR
GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH
ALL YOUR STRENGTH.”
DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5 NIV

THE MINOR PROPHETS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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THE MINOR PROPHETS
JONAH

HE WAS THE ONE WHO RESTORED
THE BOUNDARIES OF ISRAEL FROM
LEBO HAMATH TO THE DEAD SEA,
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WORD
OF THE LORD, THE GOD OF ISRAEL,
SPOKEN THROUGH HIS SERVANT
JONAH SON OF AMITTAI, THE
PROPHET FROM GATH HEPHER.

2 KINGS 14:25 NIV

THINGS WE KNOW ABOUT JONAH:

1. HE WAS A REAL PROPHET, A REAL PERSON
2. HE WAS THE SON OF AMITTAI.
3. HE WAS FROM A PLACE CALLED GATH HEPHER.
4. HE WAS ALIVE AND ACTIVE DURING THE REIGN OF KING JEROBOAM II (786 TO 746 BC).
5. HE PLAYED A ROLE IN DELIVERING A MESSAGE FROM GOD TO RESTORE ISRAEL'S BORDER

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."

JONAH 1:1-2 NIV

NAHUM 3:1-3 NIV

WOE TO THE CITY OF BLOOD,
FULL OF LIES, FULL OF PLUNDER,
NEVER WITHOUT VICTIMS!

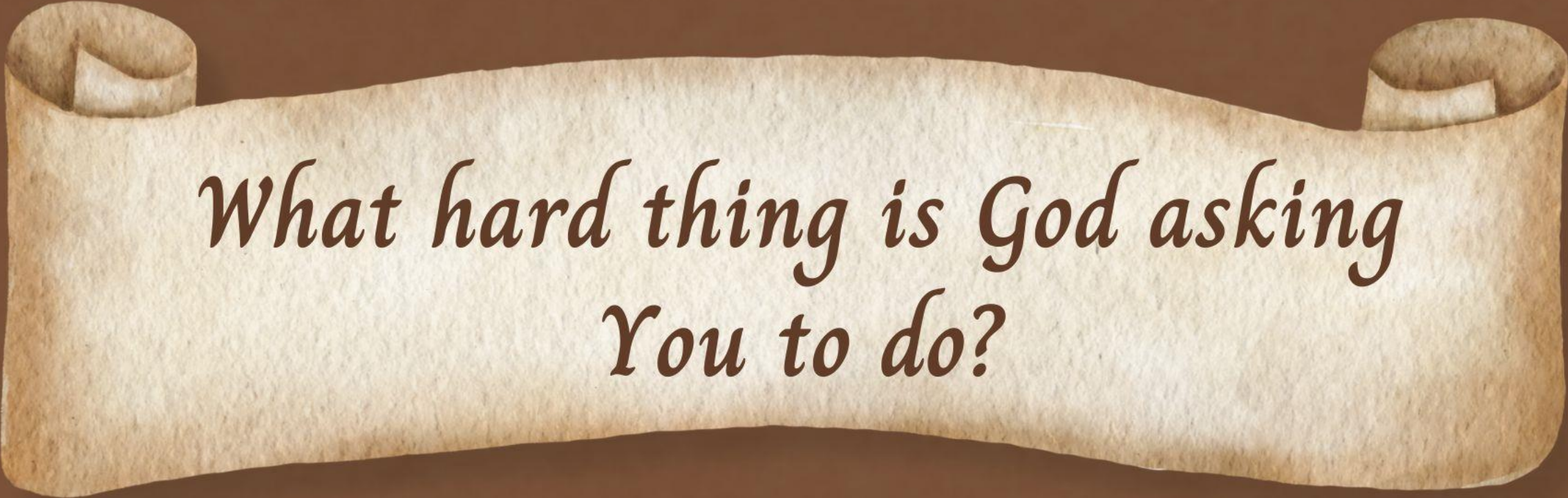
THE CRACK OF WHIPS,
THE CLATTER OF WHEELS,
GALLOPING HORSES AND JOLTING CHARIOTS!
CHARGING CAVALRY,
FLASHING SWORDS AND GLITTERING SPEARS!
MANY CASUALTIES,
PILES OF DEAD, BODIES WITHOUT NUMBER,
PEOPLE STUMBLING OVER THE CORPSES—

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 1:3 NIV

JONAH'S DISOBEDIENT TRIP



A scroll of parchment, unrolled to reveal text. The parchment is light brown with a textured, slightly mottled appearance. The scroll is set against a solid dark brown background. The text is written in a dark brown, elegant script font.

*What hard thing is God asking
You to do?*

THEN THE LORD SENT A GREAT
WIND ON THE SEA, AND SUCH A
VIOLENT STORM AROSE THAT
THE SHIP THREATENED TO BREAK
UP. ALL THE SAILORS WERE
AFRAID AND EACH CRIED OUT
TO HIS OWN GOD. AND THEY
THREW THE CARGO INTO THE
SEA TO LIGHTEN THE SHIP.

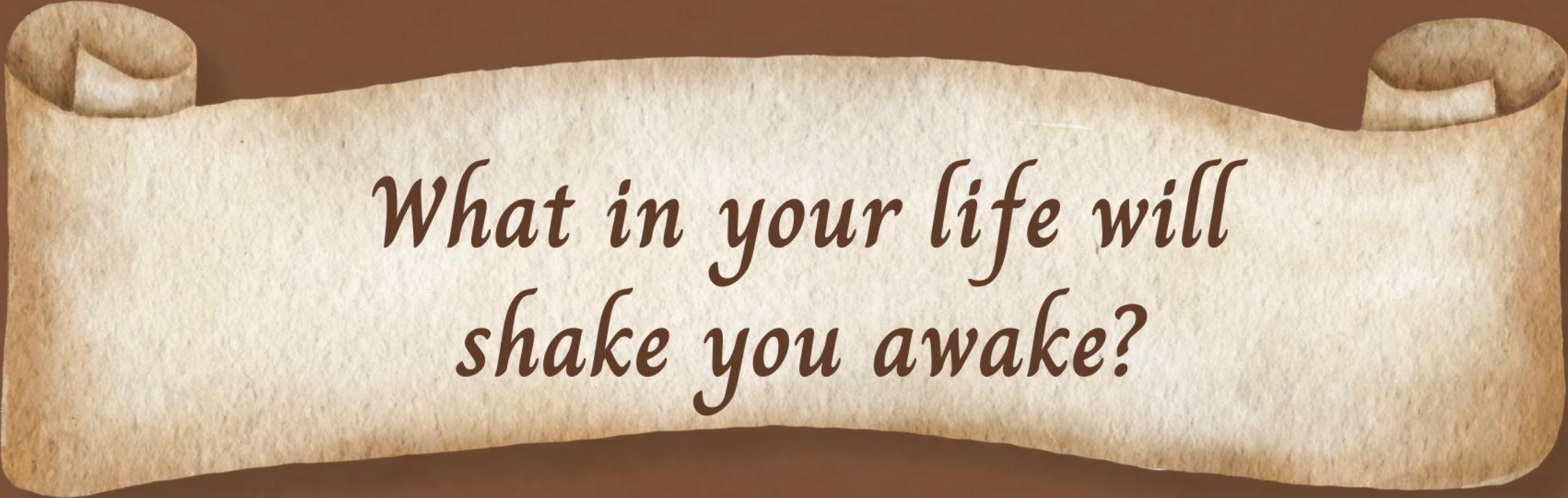
JONAH 1:4-6 NIV

BUT JONAH HAD GONE BELOW
DECK, WHERE HE LAY DOWN
AND FELL INTO A DEEP SLEEP.
THE CAPTAIN WENT TO HIM AND
SAID, “HOW CAN YOU SLEEP? GET
UP AND CALL ON YOUR GOD!
MAYBE HE WILL TAKE NOTICE OF
US SO THAT WE WILL NOT
PERISH.”

JONAH 1:4-6 NIV

A horizontal scroll of aged, light brown parchment with slightly irregular edges and a subtle texture. The scroll is unrolled in the center, with the ends rolled up into small cylinders. It is set against a solid, dark brown background.

*What warning signs have
you been missing?*

A horizontal scroll of aged, light brown parchment is unrolled against a dark brown background. The scroll has slightly wavy edges and visible texture. Centered on the scroll is a question written in a dark brown, elegant cursive script.

*What in your life will
shake you awake?*

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. SO THEY ASKED HIM, "TELL US, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING ALL THIS TROUBLE FOR US? WHAT KIND OF WORK DO YOU DO? WHERE DO YOU COME FROM? WHAT IS YOUR COUNTRY? FROM WHAT PEOPLE ARE YOU?"

JONAH 1:7-10 NIV

HE ANSWERED, "I AM A HEBREW AND I
WORSHIP THE LORD, THE GOD OF
HEAVEN, WHO MADE THE SEA AND THE
DRY LAND."

THIS TERRIFIED THEM AND THEY ASKED,
"WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?" (THEY KNEW
HE WAS RUNNING AWAY FROM THE
LORD, BECAUSE HE HAD ALREADY TOLD
THEM SO.)

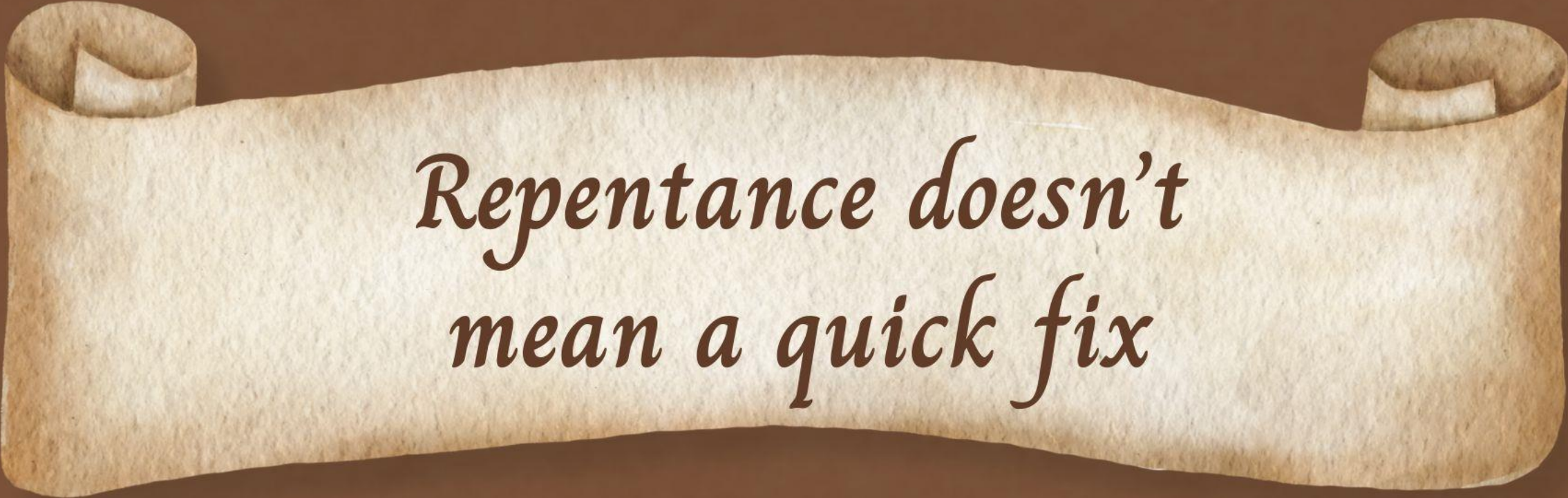
JONAH 1:7-10 NIV

THEN THEY CRIED OUT TO THE LORD, "PLEASE, LORD, DO NOT LET US DIE FOR TAKING THIS MAN'S LIFE. DO NOT HOLD US ACCOUNTABLE FOR KILLING AN INNOCENT MAN, FOR YOU, LORD, HAVE DONE AS YOU PLEASED." 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.

JONAH 1:14-17 NIV

A scroll of parchment is unrolled against a dark brown background. The parchment is a light tan color with a visible fibrous texture and slightly irregular, wavy edges. It is rolled at both ends, with the inner layers visible. Centered on the scroll is a question written in a dark brown, elegant cursive script.

*How long will it take for
you to repent?*

A horizontal scroll of aged, yellowish-brown paper with slightly wavy edges and visible texture. The scroll is unrolled in the center, with the ends rolled up. It is set against a solid dark brown background.

*Repentance doesn't
mean a quick fix*

THEN THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JONAH A SECOND TIME: "GO TO THE GREAT CITY OF NINEVEH AND PROCLAIM TO IT THE MESSAGE I GIVE YOU."

JONAH OBEYED THE WORD OF THE LORD AND WENT TO NINEVEH. NOW NINEVEH WAS A VERY LARGE CITY; IT TOOK THREE DAYS TO GO THROUGH IT. JONAH BEGAN BY GOING A DAY'S JOURNEY INTO THE CITY, PROCLAIMING, "FORTY MORE DAYS AND NINEVEH WILL BE OVERTHROWN."

JONAH 3:1-4 NIV

THE NINEVITES BELIEVED GOD. A FAST WAS PROCLAIMED, AND ALL OF THEM, FROM THE GREATEST TO THE LEAST, PUT ON SACKCLOTH. WHEN JONAH'S WARNING REACHED THE KING OF NINEVEH, HE ROSE FROM HIS THRONE, TOOK OFF HIS ROYAL ROBES, COVERED HIMSELF WITH SACKCLOTH AND SAT DOWN IN THE DUST. THIS IS THE PROCLAMATION HE ISSUED IN NINEVEH:

JONAH 3:5-9 NIV

“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. 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. WHO KNOWS? GOD
MAY YET RELENT AND WITH COMPASSION TURN
FROM HIS FIERCE ANGER SO THAT WE WILL NOT
PERISH.”

JONAH 3:5-9 NIV

A horizontal scroll of aged, light brown parchment is centered against a solid dark brown background. The scroll is slightly curved and has rolled-up ends on the left and right. The text is written in a dark brown, elegant cursive script.

*God's love and forgiveness
Are for the least of these*

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 3:10 NIV

A horizontal scroll of aged, light brown paper is centered against a solid dark brown background. The scroll is slightly curved and has rolled-up ends on both sides. The text is written in a dark brown, elegant script font.

*When we repent
God will relent*

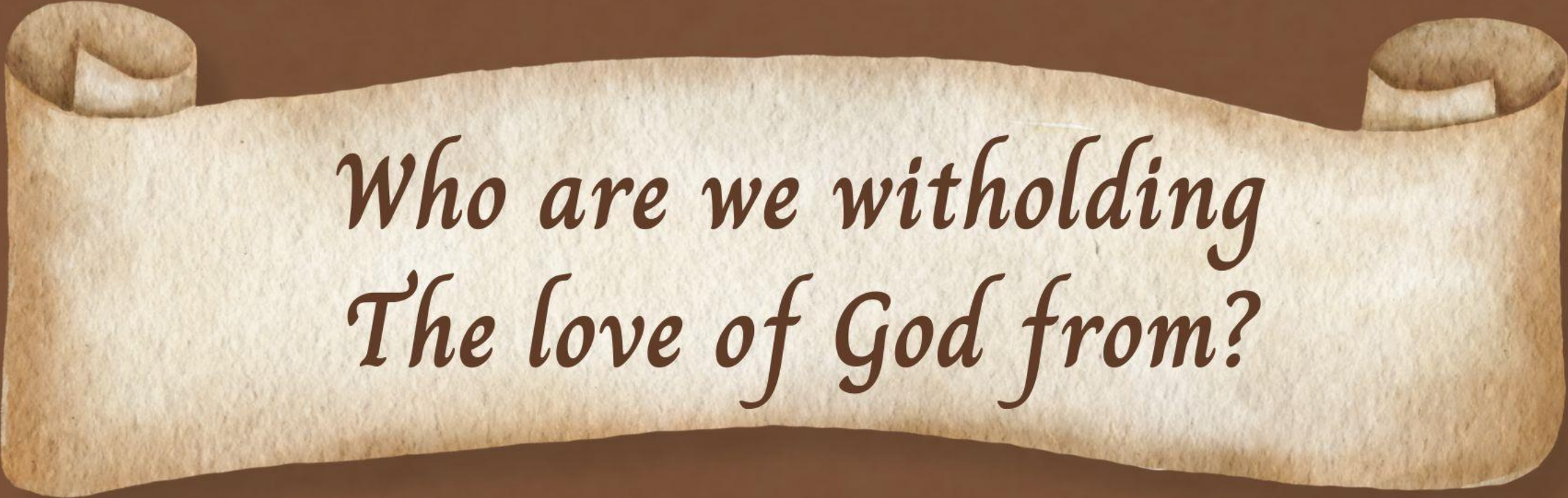
BUT TO JONAH THIS SEEMED VERY WRONG,
AND HE BECAME ANGRY. HE PRAYED TO THE
LORD, “ISN’T THIS WHAT I SAID, LORD, WHEN I
WAS STILL AT HOME? THAT IS WHAT I TRIED TO
FORESTALL BY FLEEING TO TARSHISH. I KNEW
THAT YOU ARE A GRACIOUS AND
COMPASSIONATE GOD, SLOW TO ANGER AND
ABOUNDING IN LOVE, A GOD WHO RELENTS
FROM SENDING CALAMITY. NOW, LORD, TAKE
AWAY MY LIFE, FOR IT IS BETTER FOR ME TO DIE
THAN TO LIVE.” BUT THE LORD REPLIED, “IS IT
RIGHT FOR YOU TO BE ANGRY?”

JONAH 4:1-4 NIV

BUT THE LORD SAID, “YOU HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THIS PLANT, THOUGH YOU DID NOT TEND IT OR MAKE IT GROW.

IT SPRANG UP OVERNIGHT AND DIED OVERNIGHT. AND SHOULD I NOT HAVE CONCERN FOR THE GREAT CITY OF NINEVEH, IN WHICH THERE ARE MORE THAN A HUNDRED AND TWENTY THOUSAND PEOPLE WHO CANNOT TELL THEIR RIGHT HAND FROM THEIR LEFT— AND ALSO MANY ANIMALS?”

JONAH 4:10-11 NIV

A horizontal scroll of aged, light brown paper is unrolled against a solid dark brown background. The scroll has slightly wavy edges and is rolled up at both ends. Centered on the scroll is the text "Who are we withholding The love of God from?" written in a dark brown, elegant cursive script.

*Who are we withholding
The love of God from?*

APPLICATION

1. *Following Jesus means doing hard things. Whether God is sending you to do something difficult somewhere else or right in your neighborhood. Have faith and obey when God calls.*
2. *What things are acting as warning signs that should point you toward God? Who in your life is helping to shake you awake?*
3. *Are you obeying and seeking God with the right heart? Jonah obeyed, but didn't surrender his mind to God. Jonah repented and was thankful for forgiveness, but didn't desire forgiveness for others.*

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