

Repentance: the Gift of God

Jonah 3:1-5



September 28th, 2025

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Jonah 3:1-5 [Legacy Standard Bible]

¹Now the word of Yahweh came to Jonah the second time, saying,
²"Arise, go to Nineveh, the great city, and call out to it this very call which I am going to speak to you."

³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of Yahweh. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three days' walk.

⁴Then Jonah began to go into the city, one day's walk; and he called out and said, "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

⁵And the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.

Yahweh, Our Healer; The Great Physician

Exodus 15:26 (LSB)

²⁶And He said, "If you will earnestly listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; **for I, Yahweh, am your healer.**"

Luke 5:31–32 (LSB)

³¹And Jesus answered and said to them, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick.

³²"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

Ezekiel 18:32 (LSB)

³²“For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies,” declares Lord Yahweh. “Therefore, turn back and live.”

Jonah 2:7-9 (LSB)

⁷"While my soul was fainting within me, I remembered Yahweh, And my prayer came to You, To Your holy temple.

⁸"Those who regard worthless idols Forsake their lovingkindness,

⁹But as for me, I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving. That which I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to Yahweh."

Jonah 2:10– 3:2 (LSB)

¹⁰Then Yahweh spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah up onto the dry land.

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²"Arise, go to Nineveh, the great city, and call out to it this very call which I am going to speak to you."

Psalms 103:11-13 (LSB)

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him.

¹²As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

¹³As a father has compassion on his children, So Yahweh has compassion on those who fear Him.

1 John 1:9 (LSB)

⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Jonah, the saint of God

Jonah 1:9 (LSB)

⁹And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, **and I fear Yahweh**, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

Jonah 2:1 (LSB)

¹Then Jonah prayed to **Yahweh his God** from the stomach of the fish,

Jonah 2:7 (LSB)

⁷"While my soul was fainting within me, I remembered Yahweh, And **my prayer came to You, To Your holy temple.**

John MacArthur (1939-2025) on Jonah

"The prophet Jonah is one of the clearest examples in Scripture of a wayward sinner who repented and was graciously delivered by God and restored to service."

Jonah 3:1-4 (LSB)

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⁴Then Jonah began to go into the city, one day's walk; and he called out and said, "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."



“An image of Shalmanezar III portrays the king with piles of dismembered heads, hands, and feet around him along with bodies impaled on stakes.”

JoAnna M. Hoyt, *Amos, Jonah, & Micah*, EEC (Bellingham, WA, Lexham, 2018), 154



Their Great Evil

Nahum 3:1 (LSB)

¹Woe to the city of bloodshed, completely full of deception and pillage; Her prey never departs.

Nahum 3:3 (LSB)

³Horsemen charging, And swords flaming, and spears flashing, Many slain, a mass of corpses, And there is no end to dead bodies— They stumble over the dead bodies!

Their Great Evil

Nahum 3:10 (LSB)

¹⁰Yet she became an exile; She went into captivity; Also her infants were dashed to pieces At the head of every street; They cast lots for her honorable men, And all her great men were bound with fetters.

Nahum 3:19b (LSB)

¹⁹...For on whom has not your evil passed continually?

Jonah 3:4-5 (LSB)

⁴Then Jonah began to go into the city, one day's walk; and he called out and said, "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

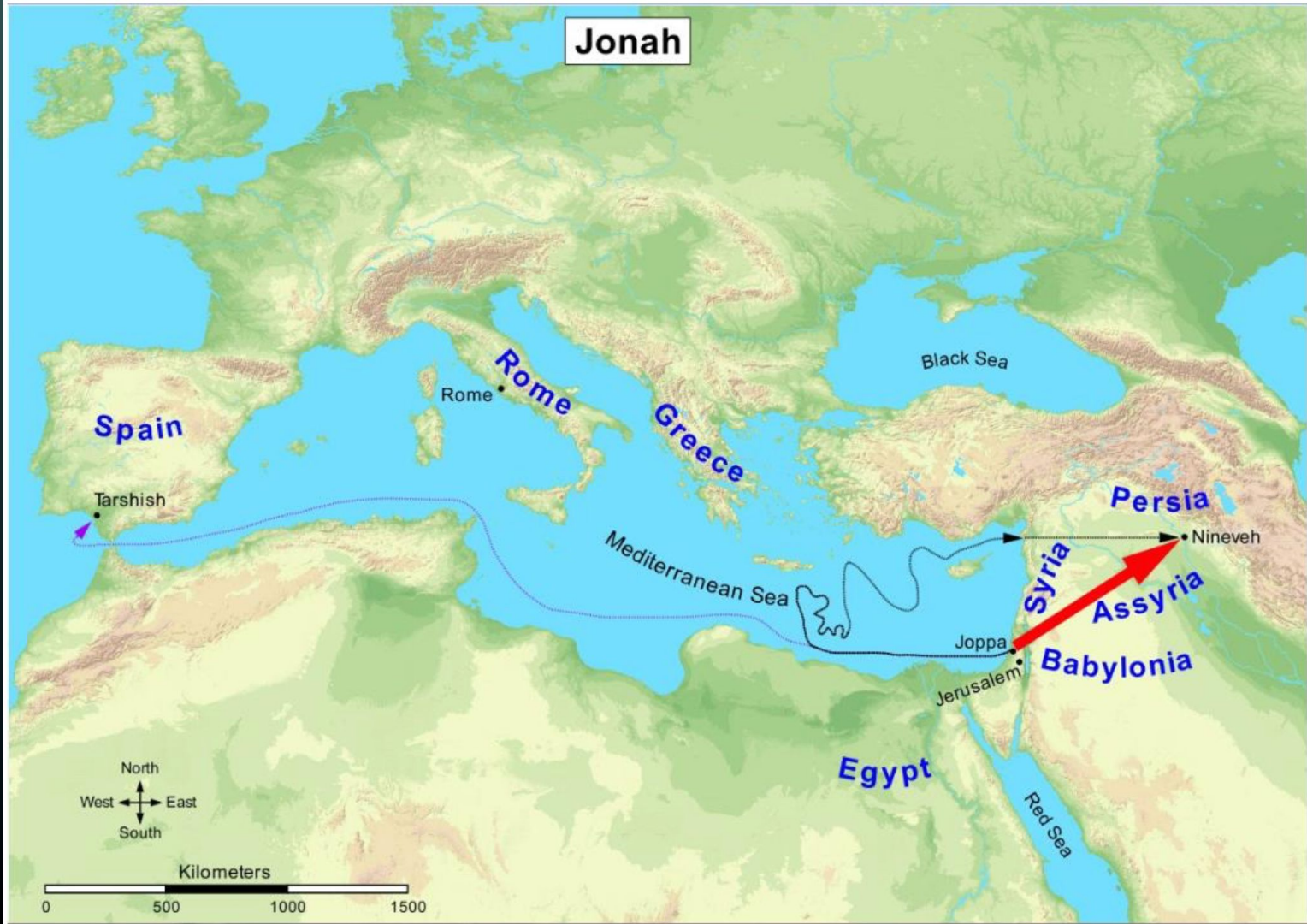
⁵And the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.

Matthew 12:40-41 (LSB)

⁴⁰for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

⁴¹“The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

Jonah



2 Kings 14:25 (LSB)

²⁵He restored the border of Israel from Lebo-hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of Yahweh, the God of Israel, which He spoke through His servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was of Gath-hepher.

He = Jeroboam son of Joash (782 – 753 BC)

King Ashur-Dan III of Assyria? (773 - 755BC)

"[year of] Bur-Sugale of Guzana. Revolt in the city of Assur. In the month of Simanu an eclipse of the sun took place."

"Assyrian Eponym Canon "

The Comparative Chronology of the Assyrian and Jewish Kingdoms, (George Smith), London, Samuel Baxter and sons 1875

Jonah 3:4-5 (LSB)

⁴Then Jonah began to go into the city, one day's walk; and he called out and said, "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

⁵And the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.

The Kindness and Patience of God

Romans 2:4 (LSB)

⁴Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance forbearance and patience,?

2 Peter 3:9–10 (LSB)

⁹The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some consider slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be found out.

Repent

Matthew 3:1–2 (LSB)

¹Now in those days **John the Baptist** came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying,

²**“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”**

Matthew 4:17 (LSB)

¹⁷From that time **Jesus** began to preach and say, **“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”**

Acts 26:19–20 (LSB)

¹⁹“So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision,
²⁰but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, **that they should repent and turn to God**, practicing deeds appropriate to repentance.