

The Prayer That Saves

Part 1

Jonah 2:1-9

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Jonah 2:7 [Legacy Standard Bible]

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

Matthew 6:7 [Legacy Standard Bible]

⁷“And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.

1 Kings 18:26-28 [Legacy Standard Bible]

²⁶Then they took the ox which was given them and they prepared it and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon saying, "O Baal, answer us." But there was no voice and no one answered. And they limped about the altar which they had made.

²⁷Now it happened at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Call out with a loud voice, for he is a god; either he is occupied or relieving himself, or is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and needs to be awakened."

²⁸So they cried with a loud voice and gashed themselves according to their custom with swords and lances until the blood gushed out on them.

God does not answer the wicked

Proverbs 1:28 (LSB)

²⁸“Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me earnestly but they will not find me,

Proverbs 15:29 (LSB)

²⁹Yahweh is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.

John 9:31 (LSB)

³¹“We know that God does not listen to sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He listens to him.

Outline

- I. Despair [Jonah 2:2]
- II. Death [Jonah 2:3-7]
- III. Dependence [Jonah 2:8-9]

Jonah 2:1 (LSB)

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

I. Despair - Jonah 2:2 (LSB)

²and he said, "I called out of my distress to Yahweh, And He answered me. I cried for help from the belly of Sheol; You heard my voice.

I. Despair - Psalm 34:15-19 (LSB)

¹⁵The eyes of Yahweh are toward the righteous And His ears are open to their cry for help.

¹⁶The face of Yahweh is against evildoers, To cut off the memory of them from the earth.

¹⁷The righteous cry, and Yahweh hears And delivers them out of all their troubles.

¹⁸Yahweh is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

¹⁹Many are the evils against the righteous, But Yahweh delivers him out of them all.

I. Despair - Psalm 34:8 (LSB)

⁸O taste and see that Yahweh is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

I. Despair - Jonah 2:2 (LSB)

²and he said, "I called out of my distress to Yahweh, And He answered me. I cried for help from the belly of Sheol; You heard my voice.

II. Death - Jonah 2:3-5 (LSB)

³"For You had cast me into the deep, Into the heart of the seas, And the current surrounded me. All Your breakers and waves passed over me.

⁴"So I said, 'I have been driven away from Your sight. Nevertheless I will look again toward Your holy temple.'

⁵"Water encompassed me to my very soul. The great deep surrounded me, Weeds were wrapped around my head.

II. Death - Driven Away

נִגְרַשְׁתִּי Nigrasti – drive out; cast out; divorce

- Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:24)
- Cain from his home (Genesis 4:14)
- Canaanites from the Promised Land (Joshua 24:18)
- Philistines from their cities (Zephaniah 2:4)
- Unrepentant Israelites from the land (Hosea 9:15)

II. Death - Jonah 2:6-7 (LSB)

⁶"I went down to the base of the mountains. The earth with its bars closed behind me forever, But You have brought up my life from the pit, O Yahweh my God.

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

II. Death

James 4:4 (LSB)

⁴You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity toward God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world sets himself as an enemy of God.

Matthew 6:24 (LSB)

²⁴“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

1 John 2:15 (LSB)

¹⁵Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

II. Death – Jonah 2:7-8 (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,

II. Death – Jonah 2:3-7

Romans 6:4–5 (LSB)

⁴Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection,

III. Dependence - Jonah 2:8-9 (LSB)

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."

III. Dependence – Jonah 2:8-9

Luke 18:9–12 (LSB)

⁹And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt:

¹⁰“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

¹¹“The Pharisee stood and was praying these things to himself:
'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

¹²'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.'

III. Dependence – Jonah 2:8-9

Luke 18:13–14 (LSB)

¹³“But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his chest, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’

¹⁴“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other, for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

III. Dependence – Jonah 2:8-9

Nehemiah 1:6–7 (LSB)

⁶let Your ear now be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer of Your slave which I am praying before You today, day and night, on behalf of the sons of Israel Your slaves, confessing the sins of the sons of Israel which we have sinned against You; I and my father's house have sinned.

⁷"We have worked in utter destruction against You and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments which You commanded Your servant Moses.

The Sinner's Prayer

Jonah 2:1–4 (LSB)

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

²and he said, "I called out of my distress to Yahweh, And He answered me. I cried for help from the belly of Sheol; You heard my voice.

³"For You had cast me into the deep, Into the heart of the seas, And the current surrounded me. All Your breakers and waves passed over me.

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The Sinner's Prayer

Jonah 2:5–7 (LSB)

⁵"Water encompassed me to my very soul. The great deep surrounded me, Weeds were wrapped around my head.

⁶"I went down to the base of the mountains. The earth with its bars closed behind me forever, But You have brought up my life from the pit, O Yahweh my God.

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

The Sinner's Prayer

Jonah 2:8–10 (LSB)

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.”

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