

The Omnipresent and Omnipotent God of Jonah

Jonah 1:3-17

August 17, 2025

Pastor Peter Chung

Jonah 1:3-4 [Legacy Standard Bible]

³Yet Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh. So he went down to Joppa, found a ship which was going to Tarshish, and paid its fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh.

⁴But Yahweh hurled a great wind on the sea, and there was a great storm on the sea so that the ship gave thought to breaking apart.

Matthew 10:28 [Legacy Standard Bible]

²⁸”And do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Jonah 1:3,10 [Legacy Standard Bible]

³Yet Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh. So he went down to Joppa, found a ship which was going to Tarshish, and paid its fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh.

¹⁰Then the men became greatly fearful, and they said to him, "What is this you have done?" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of Yahweh because he had told them.

Omnipresence

"God is present at every point in space in His entire being."

[*Biblical Doctrine*, Mayhue & MacArthur]

"God's being present in every place and time." [*Christian Theology*, Erickson]

God is present everywhere

1 Kings 8:27 (LSB)

²⁷“But will God truly dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You; how much less this house which I have built!

God is present everywhere

Jeremiah 23:23–24 (LSB)

²³“Am I a God who is near,” declares Yahweh, “And not a God far off?

²⁴“Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?” declares Yahweh. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares Yahweh.

Psalms 139:7–9 (LSB)

⁷Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

⁸If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.

⁹If I lift up the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,

Implications of God's omnipresence

1. God is present at everything; God sees everything.
(Proverbs 15:3; 2 Chronicles 16:9)

Proverbs 15:3 (LSB)

³The eyes of Yahweh are in every place, Watching the evil and the good.

2 Chronicles 16:9 (LSB)

⁹"For the eyes of Yahweh move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is wholly devoted to Him. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars."

Implications of God's omnipresence

2. There is no sin hidden before Yahweh and there is no sin that will not be punished. (Job 34:22; Amos 9:1-4; Hebrews 2:2)

Job 34:22 (LSB)

²²"There is no darkness or shadow of death Where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

Implications of God's omnipresence

Jonah 1:2 (LSB)

²"Arise, go to Nineveh, the great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before Me."

Implications of God's omnipresence

Revelation 14:10–11 (LSB)

¹⁰and he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His rage, and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

¹¹"And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Matthew 10:28 [Legacy Standard Bible]

²⁸”And do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Implications of God's omnipresence

Nahum 1:7 (LSB)

⁷Yahweh is good, A strong defense in the day of distress, And
He knows those who take refuge in Him.

Implications of God's omnipresence

1. God is present at everything; God sees everything.
(Proverbs 15:3; 2 Chronicles 16:9)
2. There is no sin hidden before Yahweh and there is no sin that will not be punished. (Job 34:22; Amos 9:1-4; Hebrews 2:2)
3. There is no place on earth beyond the reach of God's love and kindness.

Implications of God's omnipresence

Romans 8:38–39 (LSB)

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Implications of God's omnipresence

Genesis 16:13 (LSB)

¹³Then she called the name of Yahweh who spoke to her, "You are a God who sees"; for she said, "Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?"

The Omnipotence of Yahweh in Jonah 1

Jonah 1:4 (LSB)

⁴But Yahweh hurled a great wind on the sea, and there was a **great storm on the sea** so that the ship gave thought to breaking apart.

Jonah 1:11 (LSB)

¹¹So they said to him, “What should we do to you that the sea may become quiet for us?”—for the sea was **becoming increasingly stormy**.

Jonah 1:13 (LSB)

¹³However, the men rowed desperately to return to dry land, but they could not, for the sea was **becoming increasingly stormy** against them.

Jonah 1:15 (LSB)

¹⁵So they lifted Jonah up and hurled him into the sea, and the **sea stood still from its raging**.

2. Yahweh's Omnipotence

Mark 4:38–41 (LSB)

³⁸And Jesus Himself was in the stern, sleeping on the cushion; and they got Him up and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

³⁹And He woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Silence! Be still." And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm.

⁴⁰And He said to them, "Why are you so cowardly? Do you still have no faith?"

⁴¹And they became very afraid and were saying to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"

2. Yahweh's Omnipotence

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."

- Yahweh hurled... a great wind (1:4)
- Yahweh appointed... a great fish (1:17)
- Yahweh answered... Yahweh listened... Yahweh cast (Jonah 2)
- Yahweh commanded... the fish (2:10)
- Yahweh relented... the evil (3:10)
- Yahweh appointed... a plant (4:6)
- Yahweh appointed... a worm (4:7)
- Yahweh appointed... scorching east wind (4:8)

2. Yahweh's Omnipotence

Jeremiah 32:17 (LSB)

¹⁷'Ah Lord Yahweh! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You,

Dave Rivington – OMF Missionary to Thailand

“The greatest lie taught in the church in the last 100 years is that a person can make himself a born again Christian by making a decision for Christ, and repeating a prayer to ask Jesus into their heart. Christ said it is the Holy Spirit who gives life; the flesh can do nothing.”

The Omnipotence of God

Jonah 1:5a (LSB)

⁵Then the sailors became fearful, and every man cried to his god,

Jonah 1:10 (LSB)

¹⁰Then the men became greatly fearful, and they said to him, "What is this you have done?" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of Yahweh because he had told them.

Jonah 1:14 (LSB)

¹⁴Then they called on Yahweh and said, "Ah! O Yahweh, we earnestly pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life, and do not put innocent blood on us; for You, O Yahweh, as You have pleased You have done."

The Omnipotence of God

Jonah 1:16 (LSB)

¹⁶Then the men greatly feared Yahweh, and they offered a sacrifice to Yahweh and made vows.

The Omnipotence of God

Jonah 1:7 (LSB)

⁷Then each man said to the other, "Come, let us have the lots fall so we may know on whose account this calamitous evil has struck us." So they had the lots fall, and the lot fell on Jonah.

Proverbs 16:33 (LSB)

³³The lot is cast into the lap, But its every judgment is from Yahweh.

Matthew 10:28 [Legacy Standard Bible]

²⁸“And do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Matthew 10:28-32

²⁸And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for an assarion? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

³⁰But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

³¹So do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows.

³²"Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven.

Omnipotence

God has absolute power over the...

1. Universal / Cosmic / Elemental
2. National / Societal
3. Intimate / Personal
4. Spiritual / Salvific

Anthony Burgess (Puritan Theologian 1600-1664)

"The stony heart is not softened by argument, but by omnipotence."