

The Disturbing Grace of God on Jonah and Nineveh

Jonah 1:1-2
August 10, 2025

Pastor Peter Chung

Jonah 1:1-2 [Legacy Standard Bible]

¹Now the word of Yahweh came to Jonah the son of Amittai saying,

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

Romans 3:22-24 [Legacy Standard Bible]

²²even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ
for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;

²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption
which is in Christ Jesus;

Jonah 3:10 – 4:2 [Legacy Standard Bible]

¹⁰Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way, so God relented concerning the evil which He had spoken He would bring upon them. And He did not bring it upon them.

¹But this was a great evil to Jonah, and he became angry.

²And he prayed to Yahweh and said, "Ah! O Yahweh, was not this my word to myself while I was still in my own land? Therefore I went ahead to flee to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning evil.

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1. **Yahweh's** Omnipotence
2. **Yahweh's** Omnipresence
3. **Yahweh's** Hatred of Sin
4. **Yahweh's** Compassion Toward the Sinner

1. 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 Omnipresence

Jonah 1:3 (LSB)

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. [Psalm 139:7-8]

- Yahweh is present at Joppa, on the ship, and in the sea (Jonah 1)
- Yahweh is present in the belly of the fish at the depths (Jonah 2)
- Yahweh is present in Nineveh (Jonah 3)
- Yahweh is present intimately in the life of all people (Jonah 4)

3. Yahweh's Hatred of Sin

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."

Jonah 3:4 (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.**"

3. Yahweh's Hatred of Sin

Psalms 5:5–6 (LSB)

⁵The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all workers of iniquity.

⁶You destroy those who speak falsehood; Yahweh abhors the man of bloodshed and deceit.

Psalms 11:5 (LSB)

⁵Yahweh tests the righteous, But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates.

4. Yahweh's Compassion Toward the Sinner

Jonah 4:2 (LSB)

²And he prayed to Yahweh and said, "Ah! O Yahweh, was not this my word to myself while I was still in my own land? Therefore I went ahead to flee to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning evil.

Jonah 4:11 (LSB)

¹¹"So should I not have pity on Nineveh, the great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?"

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Jonah [Legacy Standard Bible]

Meaning of name: "Dove"

- Messenger of Peace (Genesis 8:11)
- Symbol of foolishness and naivety (Hosea 7:11)

From Gath-Hepher (aka?) Nazareth

John 1:46 (LSB)

⁴⁶And Nathanael said to him, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

2 Kings 14:25 [Legacy Standard Bible]

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 II

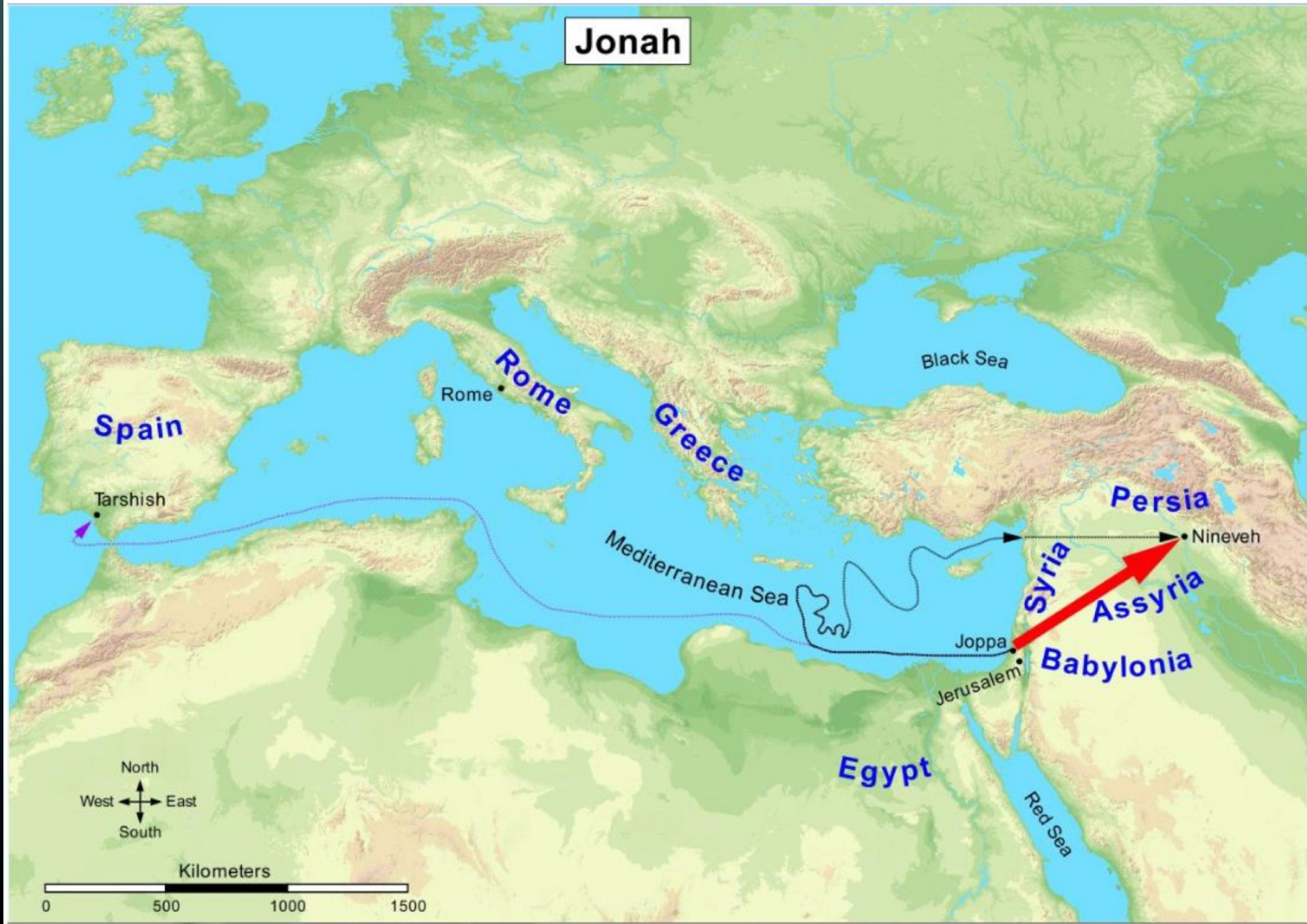
– King of the Northern Kingdom of Israel (793-758 BC)

Nineveh

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Jonah



Nineveh

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Jonah 3:3 (LSB)

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



“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?

Matthew 12:41 (LSB)

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.

4. Yahweh's Compassion Toward the Sinner

Jonah 4:2 (LSB)

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Jonah 4:11 (LSB)

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Matthew 20:1-4 (LSB)

¹“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.

²“Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard.

³“And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace;

⁴and to those he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ And so they went.

Matthew 20:5-8 (LSB)

⁵"Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did the same thing.

⁶"And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day long?'

⁷"They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.'

⁸"Now when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last group to the first.'

Matthew 20:9-12 (LSB)

⁹“And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each one received a denarius.

¹⁰“And when those hired first came, they supposed that they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.

¹¹“Now when they received it, they were grumbling at the landowner,

¹²saying, ‘These last men have worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’

Matthew 20:13-16 (LSB)

¹³“But he answered and said to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’

¹⁴‘Take what is yours and go, but I wish to give to this last man the same as to you.

¹⁵‘Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with what is my own? Or is your eye envious because I am generous?’

¹⁶“So the last shall be first, and the first last.”