

Salvation belongs to the Lord

Jonah 2:1-9

Big Idea: Salvation belongs to the LORD; so, ask him for help.

¹⁷ And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. **2:1** Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, ² saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

³ For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. ⁴ Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' ⁵ The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head ⁶ at the roots of the mountains.

I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. ⁷ When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. ⁸ Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. ⁹ But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!" (Jon 2:1-9 ESV)

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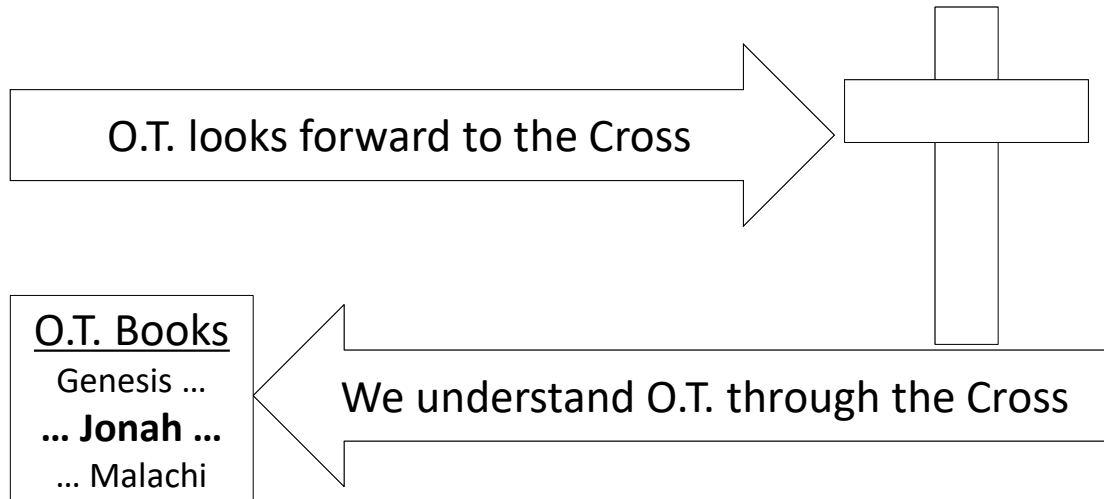
Jesus saves

Call out to
the Lord

I. Jesus saves (Mat 12:40-41).

“⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth ...”

Jonah and the New Testament.



4 ways Jonah points us to Jesus.

- i. Sent to save the world (1:2; Jn 3:17).
- ii. Forsaken by God (2:4; Mt 27:46).
- iii. Put to death for sinners (2:6-7; Rom 5:8).
- iv. Raised on the third day (1:17, 2:10; Mt 12:40).

II. In affliction, call out to the Lord.

1. Trust God's character (vv. 1-2).
2. Take responsibility (vv. 3-6a).
3. Receive forgiveness (v. 6b-8).
4. Live by faith (v. 9).

1. Trust God's Character (v. 1; 4:2; Ex 34:6-7).

2:1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, ² saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

Four attributes of God's character:

- i. Messing up doesn't remove sonship (v. 1).
- ii. Talk to God, he still loves you (v. 1a).
- iii. Let difficulty drive you to the Lord (v. 2a).
- iv. God hears and saves (v. 2b; Rom 5:8).

2. Take responsibility (vv. 3-6a).

³ For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. ⁴ Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' ⁵ The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head ⁶ at the roots of the mountains.

Take responsibility.

- i. Accept God's judgement (vv. 3-4).
- ii. Acknowledge your fault (vv. 5-6).
- iii. Taking responsibility results in forgiveness (1Jn 1:8-9).

3. Receive forgiveness (vv. 6b-8).

I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. ⁷ When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. ⁸ Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love.

Receive forgiveness.

- i. We're dying, but God saves (v. 6).
- ii. God's love waits for you (v. 8; Mt 11:28).
- iii. All who call on the Lord will be saved (Rom 10:9)

4. Live by faith (v. 9).

“But I with the voice of thanksgiving will
sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay.
Salvation belongs to the LORD!”

Live by faith.

- i. Obedience demonstrates repentance (v. 9a).
- ii. Knowing God saves leads to right living (v. 9b).

Repent, for the kingdom of
heaven is at hand.