

# Jonah Runs From God

Jonah 1

# Jonah

- We usually associate doves with good things – Gn.8
- Jonah, the minor prophet, was an unwilling participant in God's plan

# I. Jonah Runs But Cannot Hide

He restored the territory of Israel from the entrance of Hamath to the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the Lord God of Israel, which He had spoken through **His servant Jonah** the son of Amittai, the prophet who was from Gath Hepher – 2 Kings 14:25

**JONAH IS A REAL PERSON**

For their wickedness has  
come up before Me (2)

God . . .

- Ruler of every nation.
- Universal lawgiver; holds Nineveh accountable for sins. Ro.1, 2
- Graciously sends Assyria special revelation (as with Egypt)
- Will destroy them if they do not repent. Pr.14:34

# Wrong Way Jonah



## Sea growing more tempestuous (11)

- Jonah is cause of God's wrath and their danger
- This wrath will consume them too if they don't obey
- One person's sins may affect others
- Sin is serious: deadly consequences
- Cannot outrun God
- Storm will get worse if they do nothing (as Mk.4)

## Please do not let us perish... (14)

- More clearly we see danger, more readily we respond. Ac.2:40-41
- What they did would be wrong in any other situation; here, wrong if they refuse.
- Jonah's death: incur charge of innocent blood? Mt.27:25
- They know what to do (prophet of God told them).



## Threw Jonah into the sea (15)

- Proves without doubt: God of Israel is true God
- These men become apostles

‘You should have been there!  
It was the mother of all storms.  
The passenger slept. We threw  
him in . . . and all was calm.  
Israel’s God is all powerful.’

I. Jonah Runs But Cannot Hide

II. God Knows How To  
Deliver The Ungodly

then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment – 2 Pt.2:9

- Gn.18
- God delivered unrighteous Jonah
- Can Jonah complain about Nineveh's deliverance?
- We warn lost, not because we are good, but because we found the way

- Jonah failed because of criminal negligence
  - He knew way of God, but refused to share it with other lost people
- Jonah is NOT better than other sinners (he may be worse) yet God used him
- Jonah would have made a great Nahum

# Analogies

1. Sinners, confronted with storms of life, try to save themselves.
2. Without God's word, there is no salvation, 15 – sailors, Jonah, Nineveh.
3. Sailors are rescued because another was sacrificed on their behalf.

Ro.5:6-8