

## The Book of Jonah

**Jonah is an historical character and the author of this book.**

- **Mentioned in the History of Israel**

**II Kings 14:23-25**

23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel began to reign in Samaria, and reigned forty and one years.

24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

25 He restored the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath unto the sea of the plain, according to the word of the Lord God of Israel, which **he spake by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet**, which was of Gathhepher.

- **Mentioned by Jesus as a picture of His death burial and resurrection**

**Matthew 12:38-41**

38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.

39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

40 **For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly**; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

41 **The men of Nineveh (Gentiles)** shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because **they repented at the preaching of Jonas**; and, behold, **a greater than Jonas is here.**

- **Jesus Prophesied that the Gentiles would accept Him**

**Luke 11:29-32 (Matthew 16:1-4)**

29 And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, **but the sign of Jonas the prophet.**

30 **For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites**, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

31 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

32 The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for **they repented** at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than **Jonas** is here.

**Date Written: 783-753 B.C.**

**Purpose: Salvation is for ALL!**

**To Whom Written: Israel & Gentiles**

**Main Theme: Repentance is available to ALL!**

**Number of Chapters: 4**

**Number of Verses: 48**

**Key Words:** “**Salvation** is of the Lord”

**Key Verse: Jonah 2:9** But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. **Salvation is of the Lord.**

### **About Nineveh**

The Assyrian nation was the great world power of the day.

Nineveh the capital city of the **Assyrians**

Founded by **Nimrod**

Destroyed about **606 B.C.**

1. This is the one and only book of the Old Testament that announces *the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*
2. The Book of Jonah teaches that *salvation is not by works*, but by faith, which leads to repentance. “Salvation is of the LORD” (Jonah 2:9).
3. This book shows that *God’s purpose of grace cannot be stopped.*
4. This book shows that *God will not cast us aside for being unfaithful.*
5. This Book shows that God did not forget the **Gentiles**

**Romans 3:29** Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? **Yes, of the Gentiles also.**

**\*Jonah knew God would repent or change His mind and not destroy Israel’s enemy!**

6. This book shows that God is **good** and **gracious.**

**Jonah 4:2** And he prayed unto the Lord, and said, I pray thee, O Lord, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

**I. A prophet on the Run (Jonah 1:1-17)**

**II. A Repentant Prophet in Prayer**

**III. A Repentant Prophet Preaching (Jonah 3:1-10)**

**IV. A forgetful Prophet (Jonah 4:1-11)**