

JONAH

God's Heart

MAJOR

LESSONS

FROM

THE MINOR

PROPHETS

JONAH 1:1–3

¹ The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: ² “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” ³ But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship

bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the Lord.

PRAYING IN THE BELLY...

- After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.
- Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come as the sunrise,
and as the sun rises,
he will bring us back.
What shall we say to him?
What shall we answer him?
Your love is like the dew that goes early away.
- Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my
mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.
- For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt
offerings.
- But like Adam they transgressed the covenant,
there they dealt faithlessly with me.
- Gilcad is a city of evildoers,
tracked with blood.
- As robbers lie in wait for a man,
so the priests band together;
they murder on the way to Shechem,
they commit villainy.

- but they will not find him;
he has withdrawn from them.
- They have dealt faithlessly with the LORD
for they have borne alien children;
Now the new moon shall devour them with
their fields.
- Blow the horn in Gibeon,
the trumpet in Ramah;
Sound the alarm at Beth-aven,
we follow you, O Benjamin!
- Ephraim shall become a desolation
on the day of punishment,
because he has despised the word of the LORD
his God, and has despised his voice;
therefore shall he be laid waste
and forsaken, like the cities that he hated,
because he has despised his word.
- The princes of Judah have become
like a flock without a shepherd,
they have moved the landmark,
they have poured out
oil from the altar.
- Ephraim is oppressed, crushed in judgment,
because he was determined to go after filth.
- But I am like a moth to Ephraim,
and like dry rot to the house of Judah.
- When Ephraim saw his sickness,
and Judah his wound,
then Ephraim went to Assyria,
and sent to the great king
But he is not able to cure you
or heal your wound.
- For I will be like a lion to Ephraim,
and like a young lion to the house of Judah;
I, even I, will tear and go away;
I will carry off, and no one shall rescue.

- Ephraim mixes himself with the peoples;
Ephraim is a cake not turned.
- Strangers devour his strength,
and he knows it not;
gray hairs are sprinkled upon him,
and he knows it not.
- The pride of Israel testifies to his face,
yet they do not return to the LORD their God,
nor seek him, for all this.
- Ephraim is like a dove,
silly and without sense;
calling to Egypt, going to Assyria.
- As they go, I will spread over them my net;
I will bring them down like birds of the
heavens;
I will discipline them according to the reproach
made to their congregation.
- Woe to them; for they have strayed from me!
Destruction to them; for they have rebelled
against me!
I would redeem them,
but they speak lies against me.
- They do not cry to me from the heart,
but they wall upon their beds;
for grain and wine they gash themselves,
they rebel against me.
- Although I trained and strengthened their
arms,
yet they devise evil against me.
- They return, but not upward;
they are like a treacherous bow;
their princes shall fall by the sword.

JONAH 2:5,6

⁵ The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. ⁶ To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you, Lord my God, brought my life up from the pit.

JONAH 2:9B

What I have vowed I will make good.

I will say, 'Salvation comes from the Lord.' ”





WRESTLING WITH HIS OWN HEART:

• Prejudice

WRESTLING WITH HIS OWN HEART:

- Prejudice
- Politics

WRESTLING WITH GOD'S HEART:

- After two days on the third day he will raise us up.
that we may know that we are his people.
- Let us know his going down to Shechem, he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.
- What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes early away.
- Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.
- For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.
- But like Adam they transgressed the covenant,
there they dealt faithlessly with me.
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tracked with blood.
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they murder on the way to Shechem,
they commit villainy.

- but they will not find him;
he has withdrawn from them.
- They have dealt faithlessly with the Lord,
for they have borne alien children.
Now the new moon shall devour them with
their fields.
- Sound the alarm at Beth-aven,
for there I have wept in
solation,
among the tribes of Israel.
I make known what is sure.
- The princes of Judah have become
like those who move the landmark;
upon them I will pour out
my wrath like water.
- Ephraim is oppressed, crushed in judgment,
because he was determined to go after filth.
- But I am like a moth to Ephraim,
and like dry rot to the house of Judah.
- When Ephraim saw his sickness,
and Judah his wound,
then Ephraim went to Assyria,
and sent to the great king.
But he is not able to cure you
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made to their congregation.
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arms,
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- They return, but not upward;
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JONAH 3:4

⁴ Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

JONAH 3:10

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

JONAH 4:1,2

¹ But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish.

I knew that you are a gracious and
compassionate God, slow to anger and
abounding in love, a God who relents from
sending calamity.

JONAH 4:3

³ Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

JONAH 4:10

¹⁰ But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight.

JONAH 4:11

¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

STEPPING TOWARDS

GOD'S HEART:

What relationships need reconciling?

STEPPING TOWARDS

GOD'S HEART:

Who could I
include in my
relational circle?

STEPPING TOWARDS

GOD'S HEART:

Where is my own
heart with God?

MATTHEW 12:40

⁴⁰ For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.