

Study of the Book of Jonah

Lesson 2 – Jonah’s Call & Mission

Jonah Chapter One

1 Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. 3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. 4 **But the LORD** sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

Diagnostic Questions:

Who, what, where, when, how, why?

- Who was Jonah? “Jonah the son of Amittai”
- What and Where was Nineveh? “Nineveh, that great city
- What and Where was Tarshish? “flee to Tarshish” to Southern Spain, Gibraltar
- Who were the sailors and What happened to them?

Significant Hebrew Words (see Word Studies)

- “Down” - 03381 יָרַד yarad – Jonah 1:3, 1:5, 2:6
- “Hur!” - 02904 טוּל tuwl tool – Jonah 1:4, 1:5, 1:12, 1:15
- “Lifted up” - 05375 נָשָׂא nasa' naw-saw' – Jonah 1:12, 1:15
- “God prepared” - 04487 מָנָה manah maw-naw' – Jonah 1:17, 4:6, 4:, 4:8
- “Exceedingly great” - 01419 גָּדוֹל gadol gaw-dole' – Jonah 1:2, 4, 10, 12, 16, 17

The Main Points Here

1. The Word of God – “The word of the Lord came...”
2. The Presence of God – “Fled from the presence of the Lord”
3. The Will of God – “Arise and go to Nineveh...”

Other Reluctant Prophets

It is not unusual for prophets to feel unworthy for the task. But with Jonah it was not unworthiness but unwillingness.

- Moses – Exodus 3: 11 “Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh...”
- Jeremiah – Jeremiah 1:6 “I said, Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.”
- Peter – John 21:21 “Peter seeing him said to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?”
- Thomas – Story of his mission to India (Search for the Twelve Apostles, Wm Steuart McBernie)

Application

Each one of us is a Jonah.

1. God is speaking to you. Are you listening?
2. God has a will for you. Are you following it?
3. God has commands. Are you obeying Him?