

THE STORY of the BIBLE



Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, Arise, go to Nineveh...



Jonah 1:1-2

God's mission is going to be bigger than you
because it is **GOD'S MISSION!**

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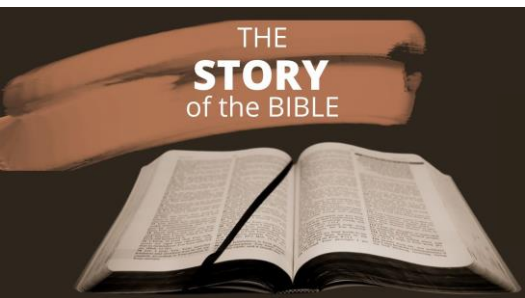
❖ God cares even when we sin against Him

...go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it;
for their wickedness has come up before Me."

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Jonah 1:1-2

Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough?



1 Corinthians 5:6 (NIV)

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- God cares even when we sin against Him

❖ It is never a good idea to run from God

But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence
of the Lord.

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Jonah 1:3-4

The church cannot allow social media to have more influence in our lives than God's Word.

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But Jonah arose **to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.** He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare...

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Jonah 1:3-4

But the Lord sent out a great wind on the sea,

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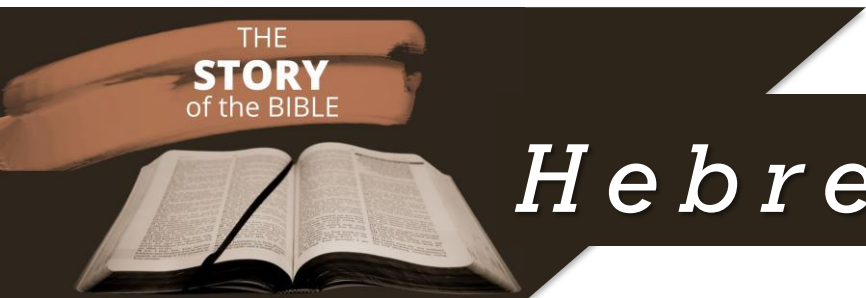
Jonah 1:3-4

God loves you too much to just let you run away
from Him.

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...“My child, don’t make light of the Lord’s discipline, and don’t give up when he corrects you. **For the Lord disciplines those he loves,** and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.”



Hebrews 12:5-6 (NLT)

and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that
the ship was about to be broken up.

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Jonah 1:4-5

Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep.



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Jonah 1:4-5

Then they said to him, "Please tell us! For whose cause is this trouble upon us?"

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Jonah 1:8

The longer I run from God, the worse things get.

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Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?"--for the sea was growing more tempestuous. And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest is because of me."



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Jonah 1:11-17

Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to land,
but they could not, for the sea continued to grow
more tempestuous against them.



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Jonah 1:11-17

Therefore they cried out to the Lord and said, "We pray, O Lord, please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for You, O Lord, have done as it pleased You." So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging.



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Jonah 1:11-17

Then **the men feared the Lord exceedingly**, and offered a sacrifice to the Lord and took vows.

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Jonah 1:11-17

Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow
Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three
days and three nights.

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Jonah 1:11-17

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- God cares even when we sin against Him
- Don't run from God

❖ When you hit bottom, look up to God

Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from inside
the fish.

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Jonah 2:1 NLT

Sometimes we must hit bottom before we will
look up to God.

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Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from inside the fish.

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Jonah 2:1 NLT

He said, “I cried out to the LORD in my great trouble,
and he answered me. I called to you from the land of
the dead, and LORD, you heard me!

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Jonah 2:2

God doesn't abandon you when you are at the
bottom.

He HEARS YOU!

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“When I had LOST ALL HOPE, I turned my thoughts
once more to the Lord.

And my earnest prayer went out to you in your Holy
Temple.”

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Jonah 2:7

“So the Lord ordered the great fish to vomit Jonah
onto a beach.”

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Jonah 2:7

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- God cares even when we sin against Him
- Don't run from God
- When you hit bottom, look up to God

❖ When you get a second chance – take advantage of it

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you."



So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey in extent. And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"



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Jonah 3

So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them...

Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and **God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.**



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- God cares even when we sin against Him
- Don't run from God
- When you hit bottom, look up to God
- When you get a second chance – take advantage of it

❖ We need to appreciate just how merciful God is

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong,
and he became angry

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Jonah 3

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.



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Jonah 4:2-3

Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.” But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

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Jonah 4:2-3

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

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Jonah 4:9-11

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.



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Jonah 4:9-11

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?”



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Jonah 4:9-11

- God cares even when we sin against Him
- It's never a good idea to run from God
- When you hit bottom, look up to God
- Take advantage of second chances
- We need to appreciate just how merciful God is



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