



The Prophet Jonah

Praying in the Belly of a Fish Jonah 1:17-2:9

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible: Page 852.
In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in bold faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the lighter faced text.

Review from Last Week

1. We have a great big God and He has a great big fish.
2. He also has a prophet that He preserved in the big fish.
3. Our God showed His sovereignty, persistence and compassion.
4. "Are you headed to Tarshish or Nineveh?"
5. Our Great God cares when your heart says "yes" to His will.



Two Characteristics of The Prophet Jonah

A. The prophet was stubborn.

Jonah 1:17–2:1, NASB95 -¹⁷ *And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights. 1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the stomach of the fish...*

What will it take for you to cry out to God?

B. But the prophet was saved.

Jonah 2:2, HCSB -² *I called to the LORD in my distress, and He answered me. I cried out for help in the belly of Sheol; You heard my voice.*

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1. The prophet *finally* prayed to God for help.

Jonah 2:2, NLT -² *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!"*

2. The prophet *finally* accepted the Lord's discipline.

Jonah 2:3, NCV -³ *You threw me into the sea, down, down into the deep sea. The water was all around me, and your powerful waves flowed over me.*

3. The prophet *finally* trusted God's promises.

Jonah 2:4–7, NASB95 -⁴ *"So I said, 'I have been expelled from Your sight. Nevertheless I will look again toward Your holy temple [the purpose of the temple was to point to the Ultimate Sacrifice—Jesus Christ] . . . The earth with its bars was around me forever, But You have brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. 7 "While I was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, And my prayer came to You, Into Your holy temple.*

4. The prophet *finally* yielded to God's will.

Jonah 2:8–9, NIV84 -⁸ *"Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs. 9 But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD."*

JONAH - Life Application Section

- A. Like Jonah, realize that only God can help you—only He can save.
- B. Like Jonah, realize that your sin placed you where you are.
- C. Like Jonah, realize that God will stop at nothing to get your attention.
- D. Like Jonah, realize you must recommit to God's will in your life.



God cares when your heart says "yes" to His will!