

Jonah

Introduction

- Jonah prophesied during the reign of Jeroboam II king of Israel (100 years after the first king Jeroboam) (It seems he had prophesied that much of the land of Israel would be restored – surely this made him well known in Israel)

2 Kings 14:23-25 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. 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. 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.

- Jesus referred to Jonah as a real prophet and not just a fictional person or story

Matthew 12:40-41 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. The men of Nineveh 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.

I. Jonah's Running from God's Call and God's Patience (Running Away from God)

A. Jonah's Call and Command

Jonah 1:1-2 Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, Arise, **go** to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

1. Jonah was the son of Amittai from Gath-hepher which was a town in Zebulun west of the Sea of Galilee
2. Nineveh was the capital city of the Assyrians over 500 miles to the northeast of Israel
3. The wickedness of Assyria
 - a) The Assyrians, whose capital was Nineveh, were notorious for brutal military campaigns involving extreme cruelty, including torture, mutilation, and terror tactics against their enemies and captives. Their reputation for ruthless violence was well known.

- b) The city was associated with immoral practices common in many ancient Near Eastern cultures, such as temple prostitution, child sacrifice, and infanticide
- 4. There was no doubt in Jonah's mind what he was supposed to do to obey God – he had a choice to make – obey or disobey
- 5. The call was clear even though the city was corrupt, but God was compassionate

B. Jonah's Rebellion and Retreat

Jonah 1:3 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.

- 1. Jonah went to Joppa a coastal city on the Mediterranean Sea
- 2. Jonah headed in the opposite direction (Tarshish was probably west)
- 3. Jonah didn't think the Assyrians deserved God's mercy nor did he think that they would actually repent
- 4. Jonah thought he might remove himself from the presence of the Lord or at least he thought he would leave the country of Israel and ignore God
- 5. Jonah didn't agree with God even being willing to show mercy to the Assyrians

C. Jonah's Disobedience brings Divine Judgment: a storm

Jonah 1:4 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.

- 1. God was preparing to get Jonah's attention – if he wouldn't listen to God's words, he would see God's mighty works
- 2. Jonah's disobedience not only affected him but those around him as well
- 3. This storm was causing the ship to be broken up and likely lost as well as all on board
- 4. God can use a storm to get your attention – a literal storm or a figurative storm

D. Jonah Tries to Sleep and Ignore through the Crisis

Jonah 1:5 Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that *were* in the ship into the sea, to lighten *it* of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

1. The sailors were afraid, this was not like any storm they had ever seen
2. They were crying out to any god who would hear them
3. They lightened the load of the ship thereby getting rid of any income that might come from the journey
4. Jonah was trying to sleep and avoid the reality of the situation
5. The sailors were scared, the ship was shaken, and Jonah was sleeping
6. He wanted to ignore the situation and ignore God

E. Jonah is Awakened by the Shipmaster

Jonah 1:6 So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

1. Jonah was trying to avoid God – even by not participating in praying in the midst of the storm
2. He couldn't avoid the captain any longer – this was an all hands on deck, every man for himself situation – how could he not understand the gravity of the situation
3. Even the captain knew this was a time for final prayers

F. Jonah's Lot is Chosen

Jonah 1:7-8 And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

1. The sailors cast lots as they thought someone on the ship was the cause for this storm and trouble
2. Jonah's lot was chosen – he couldn't hide from God nor from these on the ship
3. They firmly believed he was the cause of the storm
4. They wanted to know his real identity, his occupation, and his country
5. You can't hide forever

G. Jonah Reveals His Identity

Jonah 1:9 And he said unto them, I *am* an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry *land*.

1. Jonah reveals his identity – a Hebrew, a man of that fears Jehovah God

2. Jonah's God was the creator of the sea and the dry land – two important things in this present situation

H. Jonah Accepts Responsibility for the Storm

Jonah 1:10-11 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them. Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

1. Even the sailors understood that Jonah was being punished by God after they found out that Jonah was trying to run from God's presence
2. We cannot hide from God
Psalms 139:7-8 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.
3. They were desperate to know what they could do to stop the storm – they were asking him

I. Jonah's Solution

Jonah 1:12 And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.

1. Jonah offered to die rather than to obey God's command – he was willing to be sacrificed but not willing to surrender
2. He thought this would be the way that he could get out of going to Nineveh
3. He knew this was the judgment of God upon him
Hebrews 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
4. The storm was just strong enough to scare everyone but not strong enough to kill anyone or destroy the ship

J. Jonah's Life they tried to spare

Jonah 1:13-14 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them. Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased thee.

1. The heathen sailors were more afraid of God's chastening for throwing Jonah overboard than Jonah was for fleeing and disobeying God

2. They finally conceded to what needed to be done

K. Jonah is thrown overboard

Jonah 1:15 So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

1. With hesitation, they threw Jonah overboard

2. The sea ceased from raging – the storm was over

L. These men feared the Lord of Jonah

Jonah 1:16 Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.

1. Just as they thought God had brought this storm upon them, it must have been God to take the storm away

2. They offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows – God got their attention for sure

M. God's preparation

Jonah 1:17 Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah.

And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

1. God had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah (ship, storm)

2. He was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights

3. He didn't drown or suddenly die, God was speaking to him – now through His creation (His words, His power, His creatures)

4. God wasn't finished with Jonah

II. Jonah's Repentance and God's Pardon (Running to God)

A. Jonah's Prayer

Jonah 2:1-2 Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, And said, **I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.**

1. The initial motivation for Jonah's prayer was more out of his desperation about his situation rather than his desire to obey God
2. Jonah may have agreed to obey God just to avoid his punishment – his heart begins to change and he was turning back to God
3. Just as the sailors thought they would die during the storm, now Jonah feels like he may die in the depths of the sea
4. God hears our prayers even if we have the wrong motivation

Jonah's Prayers from the Psalms – He knew the Scripture

- **Psalms 18:6** In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.
- **Psalms 31:22** For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes: nevertheless thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.
- **Psalms 42:7** Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.
- **Psalms 88:6–7** Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps. Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves.
- **Psalms 69:1–2** Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.
- **Psalms 116:3–4** The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. Then called I upon the name of the LORD
- **Psalms 77:11–12** I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.
- **Psalms 3:8** Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people.
- **Psalms 50:14, 23** Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High... Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

B. Jonah's Punishment

Jonah 2:3 For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: **all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.**

1. Jonah acknowledged that being cast into the sea was God's chastening – it wasn't just the sailors throwing him overboard
2. He was in the dark and in the deep and in despair
3. The fact that God did chasten Jonah was evidence that he was one of God's children
4. How we respond to chastening is important
 - a) We can despise God's chastening
Hebrews 12:5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:
 - b) We can accept God's chastening
Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

C. Jonah's Outlook

Jonah 2:4-7 Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. **The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about,** the weeds were wrapped about my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God. When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.

1. Jonah had turned his eyes away from God and now he felt as though God couldn't see him
2. Jonah looked again toward God
3. He felt like he was going to die, but God had spared his life
4. Jonah again remembered the Lord
5. God is faithful to hear us – He waits for us to repent

D. Jonah's promise

Jonah 2:8-10 They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy. But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; **I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.** And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

1. Jonah recognized God's mercy – those who worship idols don't have a merciful God
2. Jonah was ready to speak for God out of a thankful heart – He would keep his vows
3. Jonah acknowledged God's salvation
 - a) His own salvation
 - b) The salvation of the heathen
4. Jonah was ready to sacrifice and obey God
5. God delivered Jonah alive back on the shore of Israel

III. Jonah's Preaching and God's Repentance (Running with God)

A. Jonah's Second Chance

Jonah 3:1-2 And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying, Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

1. The fish vomited out Jonah on the dry land – imagine what Jonah looked like at this point
2. God was patient with Jonah and gave him a second chance
3. God never left Jonah – He was there on the shore
4. Once again, God repeated His command – Jonah was ready to listen this time and obey God's command
5. God wasn't asking Jonah to do the impossible
6. God would give Jonah the strength to do the difficult
7. God would give Jonah the message to preach – he first needed to go
8. Nineveh was a great city

a) Nineveh was one of the first cities built – Nimrod was a great grandson of Noah

Genesis 10:8-12 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, And Resen between Nineveh and Calah: the same is a great city.

b) This idea seems to be that it was a large city as well as a prominent city of the time

c) It was also a city that was great in sin

B. Jonah's Message

Jonah 3:3-4 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

1. Jonah's direction changed but his attitude did not change as we will come to find out

2. Nineveh was a large city and it would take Jonah 3 days to cover all of the area – the idea seems to be that he would need 3 days to be able to share the message with all of the inhabitants
3. Imagine that these people would let a Jewish prophet into their city let alone listen to his message from his God
4. Jonah preached that Nineveh would be destroyed by God in 40 days if they did not repent
 - a) 40 days and 40 nights of rain in Noah's day
 - b) 40 days searching out the promised land by the spies
 - c) 40 days when Moses was with God on Mt Sinai
 - d) 40 days of Goliath taunting Israel
 - e) 40 years of Israel wandering in the wilderness
 - f) 40 days of temptation for Jesus in the wilderness
5. We imagine that Jonah shared his own personal experiences, maybe his appearance was strange, he preached the message that God gave to him
6. Overthrown was a word that was used for the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 19:24-25 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

C. Nineveh's Repentance

Jonah 3:5-10 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

1. The people of Nineveh believed the message of Jonah and did not want to be overtaken – they believed that God would judge them
2. The message went to everyone and even to the king
3. The king and the people proclaimed a fast and cried out to God – this fast extended even to their livestock
4. The king set aside his robe which showed his humility
5. Fasting is always connected to prayer – this was a time of mourning and praying that God would be merciful to them
6. Wearing sackcloth and sitting in ashes was an outward sign of a changed and repentant heart

Joel 2:12-13 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

7. God saw their change of heart and then gave mercy to them and withdrew His judgment and punishment
8. Just as God had rescued Jonah, he was going to rescue Nineveh
9. Truly God will show mercy to us when we repent
1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
10. Eventually, Nineveh would be destroyed as we read about in the book Nahum – but that was 150 years later

Application

- God gives second chances – be grateful for those opportunities
- Obedience is always the right choice – it should be our first choice – Jonah had to learn this
- Share God's Word even when you don't think that anyone will listen nor will they actually change their heart and actions
- True repentance is a change of heart that leads to a change of direction
- Even the worst of sinners can repent and change – God's forgiveness is unconditional while our own tolerance is many times limited to who we think deserves mercy
- God is merciful and patient, but His judgment is certain if repentance is rejected

IV. Jonah's Pouting (Running Ahead of God)

A. Jonah's Heart

Jonah 4:1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

1. Jonah was angry at the fact that the people of Nineveh repented and that God would not destroy them
2. Usually, the preacher would be glad when seeing someone repent of their sin – he was really (exceedingly) angry
3. God knew the state of Jonah's heart – he didn't think that the people of Nineveh deserved God's mercy and kindness
4. Jonah's motivation for obedience was not to see Nineveh spared, but to only spare his own life

Ephesians 6:5-7 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:

5. Resentment – a feeling of anger because you have been forced to accept something that you do not like

B. Jonah's Selfishness and Anger

Jonah 4:2-4 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. Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live. Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry?

1. Jonah knew the character of God – a gracious and kind God, slow to anger and ready to forgive and show mercy
2. Jonah fled to Tarshish because he knew that God would show mercy and kindness to Nineveh if they repented
3. He quotes from the prophet Joel

Jonah 3:9 Who can tell *if* God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

Joel 2:12-14 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to

anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

4. Jonah was angry at God
5. Jonah thought it better that he was dead himself
6. Jonah was worried that if he went to Nineveh and prophesied God's judgment and then it didn't come – He would be considered a false prophet
7. God's question to Jonah revealed his heart

C. Jonah's View

Jonah 4:5-8 So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city. And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd. But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered. And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

1. Jonah left the city hoping to escape the judgment of God that he hoped was forthcoming
2. Jonah made himself a place outside of the city where he wanted to view their destruction and judgment of God – he was still hoping that God would destroy this city maybe the same way that Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed
3. The sun was hot and God prepared a gourd to give Jonah some shade and relief from the heat – Jonah needed to cool down from his anger
4. Jonah found relief and gladness in a gourd that God had prepared – this gourd grew up overnight over him – he found happiness in a plant that brought him some shade
5. The next day God prepared a worm to destroy the gourd and Jonah lost his shade
6. Soon God prepared an east wind and the sun beat down on Jonah to the point that he was again overwhelmed with heat and fainted
7. He wished that God would take his life from him

D. Jonah's Lesson

Jonah 4:9-11 And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death. Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night: And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

1. God again asked Jonah about his anger – you are angry about the loss of shade from a gourd
2. You didn't do anything to grow this gourd and grew over night – why are you so upset about something like this plant
3. God was teaching Jonah about the value of a soul – should not God deliver these people of Nineveh who had repented – they were created by God and were valuable to Him
4. Wouldn't it be right for God to forgive the 120,000 people who have little discernment between right and wrong – their left hand and their right hand (maybe he is speaking of the children in the city thus giving us an estimate of the number of the total people living in Nineveh)

Genesis 18:32-33 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake. And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place

5. Jonah did not pity a human soul
6. Jonah forgot that salvation came from the Lord – God can bring salvation to even the worst of sinners

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.

7. God prepared many things for Jonah, but what Jonah needed was a changed heart
 - a) God prepared a ship
 - b) God prepared a storm
 - c) God prepared a great fish
 - d) God prepared a gourd
 - e) God prepared a worm
 - f) God prepared a wind

8. What a great reminder of God's patience

Conclusion (Jonah's emotions)

- Fearful – running from God's command (Jonah 1:3).
- Indifferent / Apathetic – sleeping in the ship while the storm raged (Jonah 1:5).
- Guilty / Honest – admitting to the sailors that the storm was his fault (Jonah 1:12).
- Hopeless / Despairing – in the belly of the fish, thinking his life was over (Jonah 2:4–7).
- Thankful / Relieved – praising God for deliverance (Jonah 2:9).
- Obedient (outwardly) – going to Nineveh after his second call (Jonah 3:3).
- Amazed / Surprised – at Nineveh's quick repentance (implied, Jonah 3:5–10).
- Angry / Displeased – furious that God forgave Nineveh (Jonah 4:1).
- Pouting / Sulking – sitting outside the city, waiting for destruction (Jonah 4:5).
- Happy / Glad – rejoicing over the gourd giving him shade (Jonah 4:6).
- Frustrated / Upset – when the gourd withered (Jonah 4:7).
- Weary / Overwhelmed – fainting in the sun and wind (Jonah 4:8).
- Suicidal Despair – wishing for death more than once (Jonah 4:3, 8).
- Stubborn – insisting that his anger was justified (Jonah 4:9).

Jonah's Emotion / Attitude	Scripture	God's Response	Application for Us
Fearful – running away	Jonah 1:3	God sent a storm to stop him	God may allow storms to turn us back when we run from His will.
Indifferent / Apathetic – sleeping in the ship	Jonah 1:5	God used pagan sailors to wake him	Sometimes unbelievers see the seriousness of sin before believers do.
Guilty / Honest – admitting fault	Jonah 1:12	God calmed the sea when Jonah was cast overboard	When we confess, God works to bring peace.
Hopeless / Despairing – in the fish	Jonah 2:4–7	God heard his prayer and preserved his life	Even in the lowest place, God is near to hear us.
Thankful / Relieved – after deliverance	Jonah 2:9	God commanded the fish to vomit him onto dry land	Gratitude opens the door to a new beginning.
Outward Obedience – preaching in Nineveh	Jonah 3:3–4	God used His Word to bring massive repentance	God can use even reluctant obedience to accomplish His plan.

Jonah's Emotion / Attitude	Scripture	God's Response	Application for Us
Amazed / Surprised – at Nineveh's repentance (implied)	Jonah 3:5–10	God withheld judgment and showed mercy	God's Word is powerful, even beyond our expectations.
Angry / Displeased – at God's mercy	Jonah 4:1	God asked, "Doest thou well to be angry?"	God challenges us when our emotions are selfish or unjust.
Pouting / Sulking – outside the city	Jonah 4:5	God prepared a gourd to give shade	God is patient with our immaturity.
Happy / Glad – over the gourd	Jonah 4:6	God allowed temporary comfort	God sometimes gives blessings to test where our joy really lies.
Frustrated / Upset – when the gourd withered	Jonah 4:7	God prepared a worm to remove it	God exposes misplaced priorities in what we value.
Weary / Overwhelmed – under the sun	Jonah 4:8	God sent an east wind to deepen the lesson	God uses circumstances to humble us and reshape our perspective.
Suicidal Despair – wishing for death	Jonah 4:3, 8	God kept asking questions instead of granting his request	God's mercy extends even to the stubborn prophet.
Stubborn – "I do well to be angry"	Jonah 4:9	God contrasted Jonah's pity for a plant with His pity for people	God's compassion for souls is greater than our narrow vision.