

Jonah 1

King James Version (KJV)

(Jonah – means a dove)

(Dove is derived from the same root word as wine, in the Hebrew. The word means - a comforting warmth. The comforting warmth of wine; the comforting coo of the dove in its nest)

Matthew-12:39-41 (Jonah was a type for Jesus Christ. God used him to convert Ninevah – the capital city of the Assyrians)

1 Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, (Amittai = truth of Yah) (Jonah was a prophet)

² Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. (Ninevah was a great Assyrian city. They were enemies of Israel)

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. (God wanted to offer Nineveh salvation. Jonah resisted God's command; because he knew that, in the future, Assyria would be the downfall of Israel's ten northern tribes)

NOTE: (If God has a job for you to do, don't fight Him. The world isn't big enough to hide from God. He is in charge and we serve Him)

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. (God was not taking no for an answer)

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. (These were seasoned sailors. This must have been a huge storm)

(Jonah wasn't afraid. He was willing to sacrifice himself in order to save Israel from the Assyrians. The problem is that he was trying to go against God's command. That won't stand with God)

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. (They knew that Jonah was a prophet of Yahoveh. They knew that only Yahoveh could save them)

⁷ 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. (God revealed him to the others)

⁸ 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? (Who are you? Why have you caused us to be in jeopardy of our lives?)

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. (fear= revere – it's the same word in Hebrew)

¹⁰ 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. (God gave these heathen sailors the wisdom to understand what was happening)

¹¹ 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. (Their ship was in great danger of sinking. The storm was very great)

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. (Jonah was no coward. He would rather die than help the Assyrians get salvation from God. He thought that he was helping Israel)

(Never think that you know better than God. HE is far wiser than any of us. Jonah needed to learn that lesson)

¹³ Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them. (They didn't want to throw Jonah overboard into that storm. They were sailors, not murderers. They tried, but failed, to get the ship closer to shore)

¹⁴ 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. (The sailors are asking God what they should do)

¹⁵ So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging. (The sea calmed right down)

¹⁶ Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows. (Seeing is believing. They knew that Yahoveh is the Living God)

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. (God saw to it that Jonah did not drown. God had a mission for Jonah, and He was going to see that it happened. God is in charge. We serve Him)

(This is symbolic for Jesus in the grave 3 days and nights, before His resurrection)