

Jeroboam and the Prophets

Part Three: Jonah

Jeroboam II Reigns

- Longest reigning king of Israel: 41 years

2 Kings 14:23–29 (ESV)

23 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 he reigned forty-one years.

Jeroboam II Reigns

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- God gave him peace and prosperity
 - Restored borders to nearly those of Solomon
 - Gained control of the capital of Syria

2 Kings 14:23–29 (ESV)

25 He restored the border of Israel from Lebohamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah ...**28** ... he restored Damascus and Hamath to Judah in Israel, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel? **29** And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, the kings of Israel, and Zechariah his son reigned in his place.

Jeroboam II Reigns

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- He was a wicked king

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23 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 he reigned forty-one years. **24** And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin

Jeroboam II Reigns

- Longest reigning king of Israel: 41 years
- God gave him peace and prosperity
 - Restored borders to nearly those of Solomon
 - Gained control of the capital of Syria
- He was a wicked king
- God sent many prophets

The Prophecy of Jonah

- He preached good news to Israel

2 Kings 14:25–27 (ESV)

25 [Jereboam] restored the border of Israel from Lebo-hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, **which he spoke by his servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet,** who was from Gath-hepher. **26** For the LORD saw that the affliction of Israel was very bitter, for there was none left, bond or free, and there was none to help Israel. **27** But the LORD had not said that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

The Prophecy of Jonah

- He preached good news to Israel
- He preached bad news to Nineveh

Jonah 1:1–2 (ESV)

1 Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, **2** “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.”

Jonah's Mission to Nineveh

- Ch. 1 – Jonah runs away from God

Jonah 1 (ESV)

3 But Jonah rose 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 and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, **away from the presence of the LORD.** **4** But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. **5** Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. ...

Jonah 1 (ESV)

... But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. **6** So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.” **7** And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.

Jonah 1 (ESV)

8 Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” **9** And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” **10** Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

Psalm 139:7–10 (ESV)

7 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? **8** If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! **9** If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, **10** even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

Jonah 1 (ESV)

. **11** Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. **12** He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” **13** Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them.

Jonah 1 (ESV)

14 Therefore they called out to the LORD, “O LORD, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.” **15** So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. **16** Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows. **17** And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah's Mission to Nineveh

- Ch. 1 – Jonah runs away from God
- Ch. 2 – Jonah runs back to God

Jonah 2 (ESV)

1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, **2** saying, “I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. **3** For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. **4** Then I said, ‘I am driven away from your sight; yet **I shall again look upon your holy temple.**’

Jonah 2 (ESV)

5 The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head **6** at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. **7** When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. **8** Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. **9** But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!” **10** And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

1 Kings 8:46–50 (ESV)

46 “If they sin against you—for there is no one who does not sin—and you are angry with them..., so that they are carried away captive to the land of the enemy, far off or near, **47** yet if they turn their heart ..., and repent and plead with you in the land of their captors, saying, ‘We have sinned and have acted perversely and wickedly,’ **48** if they repent with all their mind and with all their heart ..., and pray to you toward their land, which you gave to their fathers, the city that you have chosen, and the house that I have built for your name, **49** then hear in heaven your dwelling place their prayer and their plea, and maintain their cause **50** and forgive your people who have sinned against you, and all their transgressions that they have committed against you, and grant them compassion...

Jonah's Mission to Nineveh

- Ch. 1 – Jonah runs away from God
- Ch. 2 – Jonah runs back to God
- Ch. 3 – Jonah runs with God

Jonah 3 (ESV)

1 Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, **2** “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” **3** So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. **4** Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

Jonah 3 (ESV)

5 And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. **6** The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

Jonah 3 (ESV)

7 And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, **8** but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. **9** Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” **10** When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

Jonah's Mission to Nineveh

- Ch. 1 – Jonah runs away from God
- Ch. 2 – Jonah runs back to God
- Ch. 3 – Jonah runs with God
- Ch. 4 – Jonah runs ahead of God

Jonah 4 (ESV)

1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. **2** And he prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for **I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster.** **3** Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

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26 For the LORD saw that the affliction of Israel was very bitter, for there was none left, bond or free, and there was none to help Israel. **27** But the LORD had not said that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

Jonah 4 (ESV)

4 And the LORD said, **“Do you do well to be angry?”** **5** Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. **6** Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. **7** But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. **8** When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

Jonah 4 (ESV)

9 But God said to Jonah, **“Do you do well to be angry for the plant?”** And he said, “Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die.” **10** And the LORD said, “You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. **11** And **should not I pity Nineveh**, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?”

Matthew 12:38–41 (ESV)

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” **39** But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. **40** For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. **41** The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and **behold, something greater than Jonah is here.**