

Jonah Saved from Destruction *Jonah 2:1-10*

The story of Jonah, who was swallowed by a great fish and spent three days and three nights in its belly before being spat out onto the land, narrowly escaping death. It is as mysterious, humorous and interesting as a fairy tale. But it is also a prophecy of the salvation of Jesus, with the universality of God's salvation extending to the Gentiles.

Read again from chapter 1... Jonah defied the Lord's command to go to Nineveh. He boarded a ship heading in the opposite direction. Then the sea became so stormy that the ship threatened to break up, and his actions angered the Lord. The crew threw Jonah overboard and the sea calmed down. All seemed lost for the sacrificed Jonah, but the Lord commanded a great fish to swallow him. Jonah repented and prayed desperately in the belly of the great fish. Although he still risked death, he thanked the Lord first and foremost. Hearing Jonah's repentance, the Lord commanded the great fish to spit Jonah out onto the land, saving his life. The Lord is a merciful God who forgives even Jonah's disobedience. Afterwards, the Lord also accepted the repentance of the people of Nineveh. Meanwhile, Jonah...

Jonah, reluctant to obey even though he recognised the Lord's work, turned back at a critical moment. The Lord recognised his fervent prayer and delivered him. We may not be overtly rebellious like Jonah, but even when saved by the Lord, we may still have doubts deep within. So, the Lord God gave His only begotten Son, Jesus, to die and be entombed, and raised Him on the third day. The Lord saves people who are on the brink of destruction through repentance. There are no more distinctions of race or nationality.