

The Book Of Jonah

DATE & AUTHOR

Date: 793-758 B.C.
(during reign of Jeroboam II)

Author: Jonah
prophet to northern kingdom of Israel

THEME

God's compassion, grace and mercy are universally available to all people even though we can be reluctant or unwilling to share it.

KEY VERSES

2:9 (Jonah's prayer of obedience)
4:11 (God's compassion to all people)

Jonah 1

Jonah's Call & Disobedience

1:1-2, God calls Jonah to Nineveh

1:3, Jonah flees from the presence of The Lord

1:4-6, God sends a storm to correct Jonah

1:7-16, Jonah's disobedience is revealed and judged

Jonah 2

Jonah's Repentance & God's Redemption

Jonah's prayer of repentance to God

2:2, God hears prayer

2:4, Jonah stops fleeing from God's presence and starts embracing it

2:6, God is Jonah's savior

2:9, Jonah's commitment to follow God again

Jonah 3

Jonah's Obedience & God's Mercy

3:1-2, God calls Jonah a 2nd time

3:3-5, Jonah brings God's message to the Ninevites

3:6-9, The Ninevites repent of their evil

3:10, God shows his compassion to the Ninevites

Jonah 4

Jonah's Selfishness & God's Compassion

4:1-4, Jonah admits why he didn't want to go to Nineveh

4:5-10, Jonah pouts about God's mercy toward the Ninevites while God comforts him

4:11, God's compassion for the Ninevites

Contemporary with Amos

Israel is enjoying a time of relative prosperity and peace

Jeroboam II - King of Israel - Bad king (2 Kings 14:23-28)

Historical Notes

Nineveh is the capital city of the Assyrian empire

The Assyrians had a reputation for being exceptionally brutal to their enemies

Jonah is called to bring a message of God's judgement to the people of Nineveh with the availability of mercy through personal repentance

Israel is taken captive by the Assyrians in 722 B.C.

