

# JONAH

1, disobedience, Jonah 1:1-1-17

Scripture tell us (II Kings 14:25) that Jonah was born in Gath-Hepher (*gath-he'-fer*). This town was located in Northern Israel in the old tribal area of Zebulun. Jonah ministered about 750-yrs before Christ.

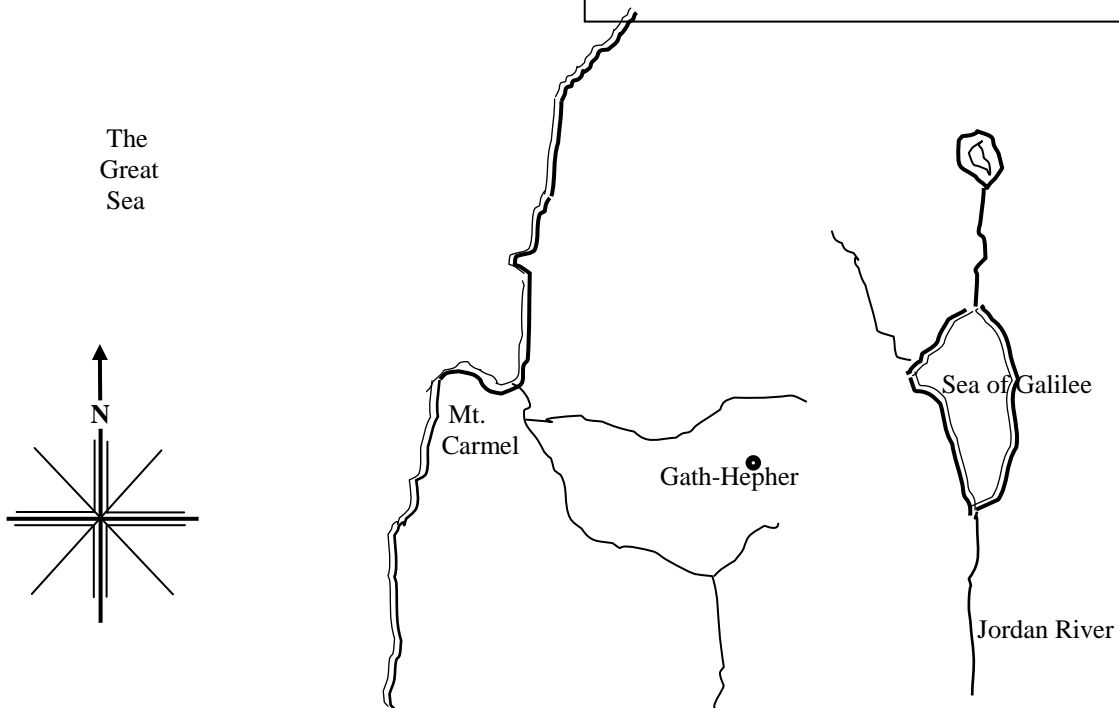
1 The word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me."

3 But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. So he went down to Joppa, found a ship which was going to Tarshish, paid the fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

[1.] Look at the maps in the back of your Bible and the map below. What are some of the towns in the proximity of Gath-Hepher?

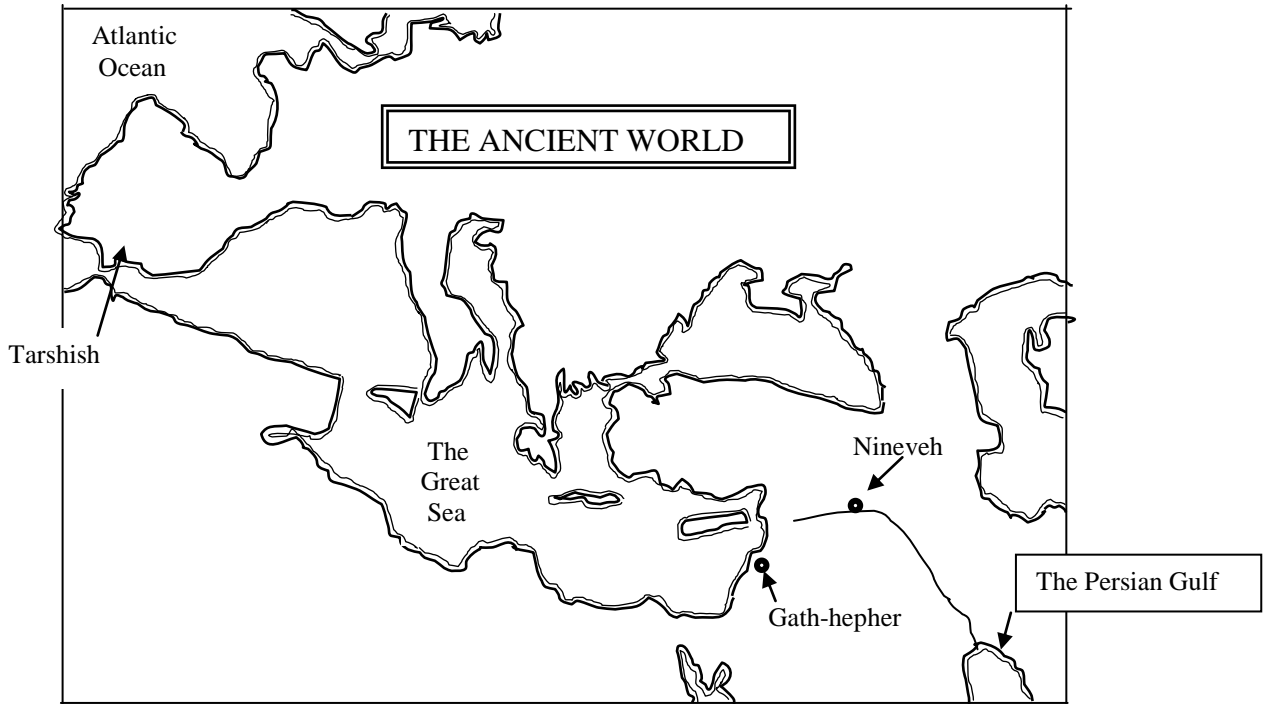
[2.] v:1-2, God called Jonah to the mission field. Where was he supposed to go?

[3.] v:3, Look at the map of THE ANCIENT WORLD (page 2). Why or why wasn't was going to Tarshish the most direct route to where God directed Jonah?



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[4.] v:3 again, presence of the Lord, What does Ps 139:7-12 describe as the most effective way to escape the presence of the Lord?

[5.] v:3 again, You're thoughts! At what point, in Jonah's fleeing, did God realize he was going to disobey.

[6.] v:4, a great wind, Was the storm a seasonal one or coincidence or something else?

4 The Lord hurled a great wind on the sea and there was a great storm on the sea so that the ship was about to break up.

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5 Then the sailors became afraid and every man cried to his god, and they threw the cargo which was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them.

6 But Jonah had gone below into the hold of the ship, lain down and fallen sound asleep. 6 So the captain approached him and said, "How is it that you are sleeping? Get up, call on your god. Perhaps your god will be concerned about us so that we will not perish."  
7 Each man said to his mate, "Come, let us cast lots so we may learn on whose account this calamity has struck us." So they cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.

8 Then they said to him, " Tell us, now! On whose account has this calamity struck us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"

[7.] Something to think about. As born again Christians, is it possible that God would also bring "storms" into our lives if we persisted in disobedience?

[8.] v:5, sailors became afraid, Would this mean that the storm was big time or only "sissy stuff"?

[9.] v:5 again, cried to his god, Why or why wouldn't we to assume that the sailors god was the same as Jonah's?

[10.] v:6-7, let us cast lots, How often and untrustworthy could this practice have been practiced by these men?

[11.] As a born again believer, after praying and waiting, what might a believer do if the answer doesn't come within a supposed time frame?

[12.] v:8, Tell us, now! Looking at all of their questions, what did these sailors really want to know?

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9 He said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord God of heaven who made the sea and the dry land."

[14.] v:9, He said to them, Why isn't it always easy to be calm and rational in emergencies?

[15.] question [14.], What benefit would it be for Jonah to give such information?

[16.] v:9, What might this crew have known about the "Lord God of heaven, maker of sea and dry land" ?

[17.] question [16.], Where could the sailors have learned these things?

[18.] You're opinion! These sailors got first hand information about God's power. What was the information?

[19.] In closing! As a born again child of God, give one example of the power of God shown through your life.