

# JONAH

## 3, in the fish, Jonah 2:1-10

There were no distractions, no cell phones, no TV etc., so Jonah was able to focus on his prayer.

1 Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the stomach of the fish, 2 and he said, "I called out of my distress to the Lord, And He answered me. I cried for help from the depth of Sheol; You heard my voice.

**depth of Sheol**, The phrase does not necessarily indicate that Jonah actually died. "Sheol" frequently has a hyperbolic meaning in contexts where it denotes a catastrophic condition near death (Ps 30:3). Later Jonah expressed praise for his deliverance "from the pit", speaking of his escape from certain death.

The John MacArthur Study Bible

hyperbolic, from hyperbole: an extravagant exaggeration (as "mile-high ice cream cones"  
Webster's 11<sup>th</sup> Collegiate Dictionary

[1.] v:1, Jonah prayed, You have all been in situations where a well meaning person tells you what to pray for. Why do you feel that Jonah knew instinctively what to pray for?

[2.] v:1, again from the stomach of the fish, According to the average "man on the street" where might be a good best location to pray to God?

[3.] v:1-2, I cried for help, Two locations were stated regarding from where Jonah prayed. What were they?

[4.] question [3.], How could he have prayed from both locations?

### TIME OUT!

[5.] Since we are talking about prayer, was Nehemiah's prayer in Nehemiah 2:4 & 5 of proper length?

If so, What can we as Christians learn from this? Is Ps 119:145-146 appropriate for us?

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3 "For You had cast me into the deep, Into the heart of the seas, And the current engulfed me. All Your breakers and billows passed over me.

4 "So I said, 'I have been expelled from Your sight. Nevertheless I will look again toward Your holy temple.'

5 " Water encompassed me to the point of death. The great deep engulfed me, Weeds were wrapped around my head. 6 "I descended to the roots of the mountains. The earth with its bars was around me forever, But You have brought up my life from the pit, O Lord my God.

7 "While I was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, And my prayer came to You, Into Your holy temple.

[5.] You had cast me, Wait, Jonah 1:15 said that the sailors threw him in, and here in v:3 it says God cast him in. Go ahead and explain what happened.

[6.] v:4, expelled (driven out) from Your sight, Why or why wasn't that what Jonah wanted all along?

[7.] v:4 again, 'I have been expelled, From Ps 31:22, describe how is the Psalmist is stating Jonah's feelings?

[8.] v:4 again, Something to consider. Write down when you have felt like Jonah or the Psalmist?

[9.], Re-read v:3-6 and jot down a list of the Jonah's descriptions.

[10.] v:7, While I was fainting away, What do you feel Jonah meant by this phrase?

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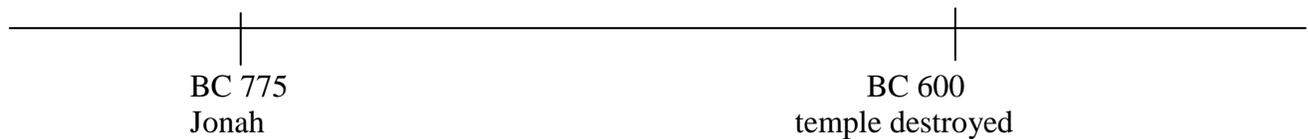
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[11.] v:7 again, While I was fainting away, Be honest now, why would a loving God really allow things to go that far?

Let's look at this again.

V:4 & v:7, stated "Your holy temple" .

[12.], From the time line, about when did Jonah minister?



[13.] Again from the time line, when was The temple (Solomon's) destroyed?

[14]. If Jonah's prayer went to Solomon's temple, then where did prayers go after the temple was destroyed.

8 "Those who regard vain idols Forsake their faithfulness,

[15.] v:8, vain idols, According to Rom 1:22-23, list the images that the "fools" exchanged for God.

[16.] question [15.], Give at least one example of each image.

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9 But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving. That which I have vowed I will pay. Salvation is from the Lord.”

10 Then the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah up onto the dry land.

[17.] v:9, I have vowed, **What do you feel is the vow that Jonah said he would sacrifice?**

[18.] Define “fox hole religion”

[19.] v:10, the Lord commanded, **From v:2, Jonah said that “He (the Lord) answered me” . How did the Lord answer?**

### **In conclusion.**

**We read in Jonah 1:17 that,** the Lord appointed a great fish. **Again here in Jonah 2:10 we read that,** the Lord commanded the fish.

**What would you think if there were a Jonah 2:11 here which stated,** “The word of the Lord came to the fish saying, 2 “Wake up and vomit Jonah onto the dry land, for he has repented.” .3 But the fish fled, from the presence of the Lord, to the Pacific ocean.

[18.] Write down your reasons why you feel all of creation instantly obeys God but, man feels he can ignore God’s commands?