

19. Jonah - Yonah

(Version 4) 1-21-17

Chapter 1

1:1 And the word of **YAHWEH** existed to Yonah,
son of Amitai, saying,

Yonah means dove.
Amitai means my stability.

1:2 "Get up!
Go to Nineveh, the great city!
And cry out against it
because their evil has ascended before My face!"

1:3 But Yonah got up for the sake of fleeing to Tarshish
from before the face of **YAHWEH**.
And he went down to Yapho (Joppa).
And he found a ship going to Tarshish.
And he gave the payment.
And he went down into it
for the sake of going with them to Tarshish
from before the face of **YAHWEH**.

1:4 And **YAHWEH** hurled a great wind toward the sea.
And there was a great tempest on the sea.
And the ship was considered as being broken in pieces.
1:5 And the sailors were afraid.

And each one cried out to his god.
And they hurled the objects themselves **in**
which were in the ship into the sea
for the sake of lightening the load.

And Yonah had gone down to the lowest parts of the ship.
And he laid down.
And he was in a deep sleep.

1:6 And the captain came to him.
And he said to him,
"Why are you sleeping?
Get up!
Call out to your gods!
Perhaps the gods will consider us
and we will not perish."

1:7 And they said one man to his companion,
"Come!
And we will cast lots.
And we will know on whose account
this harm has come upon us."

And they cast lots.
And the lot fell to Yonah.

1:8 And they said to him,
“Explain to us now
on what account this harm has happened to us?
What is your occupation?
And from where have you come?
What is your country?
And of what people are you?”

1:9 And he said to them,
“I am a Hebrew.
And **YAHWEH**, The Elohim of The Heavens,
I myself revere,
He Who has made the sea itself **nx**
and the dry land itself **nx**”

1:10 And the men were greatly afraid, exceedingly.
And they said to him,
“Why have you done this?”
Indeed, the men knew that he was fleeing
from before the face of **YAHWEH**
because he had explained it to them.

1:11 And they said to him,
“What are we to do to you
that the sea will be calm from around us?
Indeed, the sea was becoming more enraged.

1:12 And he said to them,
“Pick me up and hurl me into the sea!
Then the sea will be calm for you.
Indeed, I myself know that it is on account of me
this great tempest is upon you.”

1:13 But the men rowed
for the sake of bringing the ship to dry land.
But they were not able
because the sea was moving,
and it was storming against them.

1:14 And they called out to **YAHWEH**.
And they said,
“Alas, **YAHWEH**!
Let us not perish on account of the life of this man!
And do not lay upon us innocent blood!

Indeed, You Yourself **nx**, **YAHWEH**,
have done according to what pleased You!”

1:15 And they picked up Yonah himself **nx**.
And they hurled him into the sea.
And the sea stood still from its raging.

1:16 And the men feared YAHWEH Himself דָנָה greatly,
exceedingly.
And they slaughtered a sacrifice to YAHWEH.
And they vowed vows.

Chapter 2 begins here in the Hebrew text.

1:17 (H 2.1) And YAHWEH prepared a great fish
for the sake of swallowing Yonah himself דָנָה.

And Yonah was in the belly of the fish
three days and three nights.

Chapter 2

2:1 (H 2.2) And Yonah prayed to YAHWEH, his Elohim,
from the belly of the fish.

2:2 (H 2.3) And he said,
'I called out because of my distress to YAHWEH.
And He answered me.
From the belly of She'ol I hollered for help.
You listened attentively to my voice.

2:3 (H 2.4) Even You had hurled me
deep into the midst of the seas.
And the currents surrounded me.
All Your breakers and Your waves passed over upon me.
2:4 (H 2.5) And I myself said,
'I have been driven out from before Your eyes.
However, I will have cause to look again
toward Your set apart Temple.'

2:5 (H 2.6) The waters encompassed me as far as life itself.
The deep surrounded me.
Weeds were bound to my head.
2:6 (H 2.7) I went down to the base of the mountains.
The gate bars of the earth were behind *me* to eternity.

But You raised up my life from The Pit,
YAHWEH, my Elohim.

2:7 (H 2.8) As my life fainted within me
I remembered YAHWEH Himself דָנָה.
And my prayer came to Your set apart Temple.

2:8 (H 2.9) Those protecting lying vanities
abandon their own kindness.
2:9 (H 2.10) But I myself will sacrifice to You
with the voice of thanksgiving.
What I have vowed I will pay.
Deliverance belongs to YAHWEH."

2:10 (H 2.11) Then YAHWEH spoke to the fish.

And it vomited Yonah *himself* ~~in~~ onto the dry land.

Chapter 3

3:1 And the word of **YAHWEH** existed to Yonah
a second time saying,

3:2 "Get up!
Go to Nineveh, the great city!
And proclaim to it the proclamation
which I am speaking to you!"

3:3 And Yonah got up.
And he went to Nineveh according to the word of **YAHWEH**.

And Nineveh was an exceedingly great city,
a journey of three days *across*.

3:4 And Yonah began to enter the city, one day's journey.
And he proclaimed.
And he said,
"Forty days more and Nineveh is going to be overthrown!"

3:5 And the men of Nineveh trusted in The Elohim.
And they proclaimed a fast.
And they put on sackcloth,
from the greatest even as far as the least of them.

3:6 And the word reached to the king of Nineveh.
And he stood up from his throne.
And he set aside his robe from upon him.
And he covered himself with sackcloth.
And he sat upon the ashes.

3:7 And he cried out.
And he spoke with Nineveh
by decree of the king and his mighty men saying,
"The human being or the animal of the herd or of the flock
is not to taste anything!
Let them not eat,
and let them not drink water!"

3:8 And the human being and the animal
are to be covered with sackcloth!
And they are to call out to The Elohim with power!

And let each man turn back from his evil way
and from the violence that is in his hands!

3:9 Who knows?
The Elohim might turn and relent,
and turn back from His burning anger.
Then we will not perish."

3:10 And The Elohim saw their actions,
that they had turned back from their evil way.

And The Elohim relented concerning the harm
which He had spoken
for the sake of doing it to them.
And He did not do it.

Chapter 4

4:1 But it was bad to Yonah,
exceedingly bad.
And *his anger* blazed up within him.

4:2 And he prayed to **YAHWEH**.
And he said,
“Alas, **YAHWEH**!
Was this not my word while I was in my *own* land?
For this reason I went ahead,
for the sake of fleeing to Tarshish,
because I knew You Yourself **nx**,
an El showing favor,
and compassionate,
slow to anger,
and of great kindness,
and relenting concerning harm.

4:3 And now, **YAHWEH**,
please take my life itself **nx** from me!
Indeed, it is better for me to die than to live!”

4:4 And **YAHWEH** said,
“Does doing good inflame you?”

4:5 Then Yonah went out from the city.
And he sat by the east side of the city.
And made a booth there for himself.
And he sat beneath it in the shade
until when he would see what would happen with the city.

4:6 And **YAHWEH**, The Elohim, prepared a plant.
And He raised it up over it for the sake of Yonah,
for the sake of being a shade over his head,
for the sake of delivering him from his harm.
And Yonah greatly rejoiced over the plant.

4:7 But The Elohim prepared a maggot
as the next day was dawning.
And it attacked the plant itself **nx**.
And it withered.

4:8 And it was as the sun was rising.
And The Elohim prepared a vehement east wind.
And the sun beat upon the head of Yonah.
And he grew weak.
And he asked for his life itself **nx**

for the sake of dying.

And he said,

"It is better for me to die than to live."

4:9 And The Elohim said to Yonah,

"Is it good for you to be angry concerning the plant?"

And he said,

"Doing good inflames me,
even to the point of death!"

4:10 And **YAHWEH** said,

"You yourself **nx** had compassion upon the plant
for which you had not labored with it,
and you had not made it grow,
which grew up in a night,
and perished in a night.

4:11 And should I Myself not have compassion
on Nineveh, the great city,
in which there is more than
one hundred and twenty thousand human beings
who have not known the difference between
their right hand or their left hand,
and many animals?"