

SERMON NOTES

An Unlikely Rescue: Jonah Gives Thanks to His Great and Compassionate God

Jonah 1:17–2:10 | Matt Green | July 19, 2020

Jonah Swallowed by a Great Fish! (1:17)

- We know nothing about what kind of fish/whale/etc. it was
- The fish was God's fish — appointed to accomplish His purposes
- Three days and three nights — Jesus and the “Sign of Jonah”

“An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” (Matthew 12:39–40)

Jonah's Psalm (2:2–9)

- Summary of Jonah's predicament and God's response (2:2)
- Jonah's near-death experience in the deep (2:3–6)
 - Jonah's situation was absolutely hopeless
 - Jonah now feared being cut off from the Lord's presence
 - Jonah had confidence in God's salvation, even before it happened
- God's rescue of Jonah (2:7–8)
 - Jonah remembered the Lord
 - The Lord heard Jonah from His temple in heaven
 - God shows His steadfast love, which you can't get with idols

JONAH 2: THANKS FOR AN UNLIKELY RESCUE

JULY 19, 2020

- Jonah's response of worship (2:9)
 - His response is like that of the pagan sailors (which was a good response for a follower of God)
 - Jonah will make an appropriate sacrifice of thanksgiving
 - Jonah made a vow, indicating his intention to continue following the Lord

Jonah Expelled from the Fish (2:10)

- God completes Jonah's salvation from the sea
- Now, how will Jonah respond to God?

Contradictions: Jonah's Prayer vs. Jonah's Actions

- Makes a big deal of calling on the Lord, when earlier he wouldn't call on the Lord at all
- Grateful to have been saved, but callous toward others
- Opposes idolatry, but it took pagan sailors to get him to seek God
- Expresses hope in God, while he has been running from God

How Are We Like Jonah?

- How are we committed to God, yet unfaithful to Him?
- What does it mean to be "simultaneously saint and sinner"?
- How do we deal with this reality in our lives?