

JONAH

Author/Date/Setting:

The book of Jonah is one of the most unique books of the bible. What makes it so unique is that the thrust of the book is not about the prophets _____ as much as it is the events surrounding the prophets commission. The book is named after it's author, Jonah. In chapter 2, he is telling his experience in the belly of the whale in the _____ person from a _____ person account (Jonah 2:1-2). Jonah's commission to prophesy in Nineveh took place during the reign of Jeroboam 2nd (2 Kings 14:23-25). We know it is the same Jonah based on the _____ of the book (Jonah 1:1) This helps us _____ the book and adds a very important dimension to our understanding of it. Jonah was a contemporary of the prophets _____ and _____ (cf. Hosea 1:1; Amos 1:1); Isaiah immediately followed them. The message of these prophets (Amos, Hosea and eventually Isaiah) tell us that God was preparing to send the _____ army to take Israel captive as a form of chastisement. The Assyrian army were notorious for being cruel and barbarous. Nineveh was the _____ of Assyria. This means the Ninevites would have been part of any invasion of Israel. There are several twists to the book of Jonah. We see the wisdom of God contradict the wisdom of man. In Jonah's wisdom maybe he didn't want to go to Nineveh because he was afraid they would _____ and be spared. He wanted them to be destroyed and knew God would eventually do so because of their wickedness. Maybe it was because of how they had treated his ancestors in days gone by or maybe he thought their destruction would _____ the judgement of Israel. On the other hand we see the wisdom of God. Sending Jonah there first to evangelize them would soften the nature of the way they did _____ and benefit Israel in the process. Jonah didn't see that and his disdain for the Ninevites caused his reluctance.

- Jonah & _____

Jesus referred to the life and ministry of Jonah often in his preaching, each citing a different variable of comparison:

Matt 12:38-41

Outline:

Chapter 1

- 1) Jonah _____ The Will of God (v1-2)
- 2) Jonah _____ To The Will of God (v3)
- 3) The Lord _____ To Jonah's Decision (v4-5)
- 4) The _____ From The Heathen (v6)
- 5) The _____ of The Problem (v7-16)
- 6) The _____ for The Rebellious Prophet (v17)

Chapter 2

The Prayer of A _____ Preacher

Chapter 3

- 1) We Learn That The Will of God _____ (v1-2)
- 2) The _____ Of Jonah (v3-4)
- 3) The _____ of The Ninevites (v5-10)

Chapter 4

The _____ of Jonah exposed