

# Jonah

Dr. Michael D. Wedman

1

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Background

- Jonah is more narrative than prophecy
- “The Word of the Lord came to Jonah”

Question: Is this a real person and event?

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Background

Answer:

- 2 Kings 14:25
- Son of Amittai
- Lived in Gath Hopher in Zebulun – north of Nazareth

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Background

Answer:

- Matthew 12:38-41
  - Jesus speaks of Jonah as a real person living in real space and time

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

4

## Background

- Jonah likely lived just before and during the reign of King Jeroboam II (793-753)
- After Elisha and contemporary with Hosea, Amos, and Isaiah
- Likely visited Ninevah circa 760 B.C.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5

## Background

- The Assyrian Empire was the dominant world power from 900-700 B.C.
- They were a cruel and ruthless people who were world renown for their cruel treatment of their enemies

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6

## Background

- During the early to mid 700's, the Assyrian Empire descended into confusion and chaos due to three rulers who followed after the Great Shalmaneser III.
- King Jehu of Judah (841-814), appointed by Elisha (1 Kings 9:3ff) visited Shalmaneser to pay tribute to him

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Background

- Two plagues (765 and 759) and a solar eclipse (763) may have also prepared the people of Ninevah for Jonah's message of repentance

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Message of the Book of Jonah

- Jonah 1:1-17 – Running Away
- Jonah 2 – Repentance and Acceptance
- Jonah 3 – God's Second Call and Jonah's Second Chance
- Jonah 4 – Jonah's displeasure

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Conclusion

- God cares about ALL people
- God wants ALL people to come unto salvation – even the worst ones
- God sends us to our enemies for their salvation!
- Love your enemies – Lk 6:27-36

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Conclusion

- Our character is to reflect the character of God
- Grace and mercy

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---