

The background features a light blue-grey gradient. A large, textured, dark blue mountain shape is centered. To its upper left is a solid orange circle representing a sun. To its right is a dark blue palm tree silhouette. Below the mountain's right side is a sunburst of small orange dots.

Prayers

The Book of Jonah

Jonah 1:1

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai:

Did Jonah actually happen?

Four reasons why I think it is historical

Did Jonah actually happen?

Four reasons why I think it is historical

- Author makes no attempt to make it clear that this is an allegory or historical fiction

Did Jonah actually happen?

Four reasons why I think it is historical

- Author makes no attempt to make it clear that this is an allegory or historical fiction
 - Everyone up until the 19th Century held the historicity of the book

Did Jonah actually happen?

Four reasons why I think it is historical

- Author makes no attempt to make it clear that this is an allegory or historical fiction
 - Everyone up until the 19th Century held the historicity of the book
- Jesus uses Jonah to describe another historical fact that was going to happen – his death and resurrection
[Matthew 12:38-41]

Matthew 12:38-42

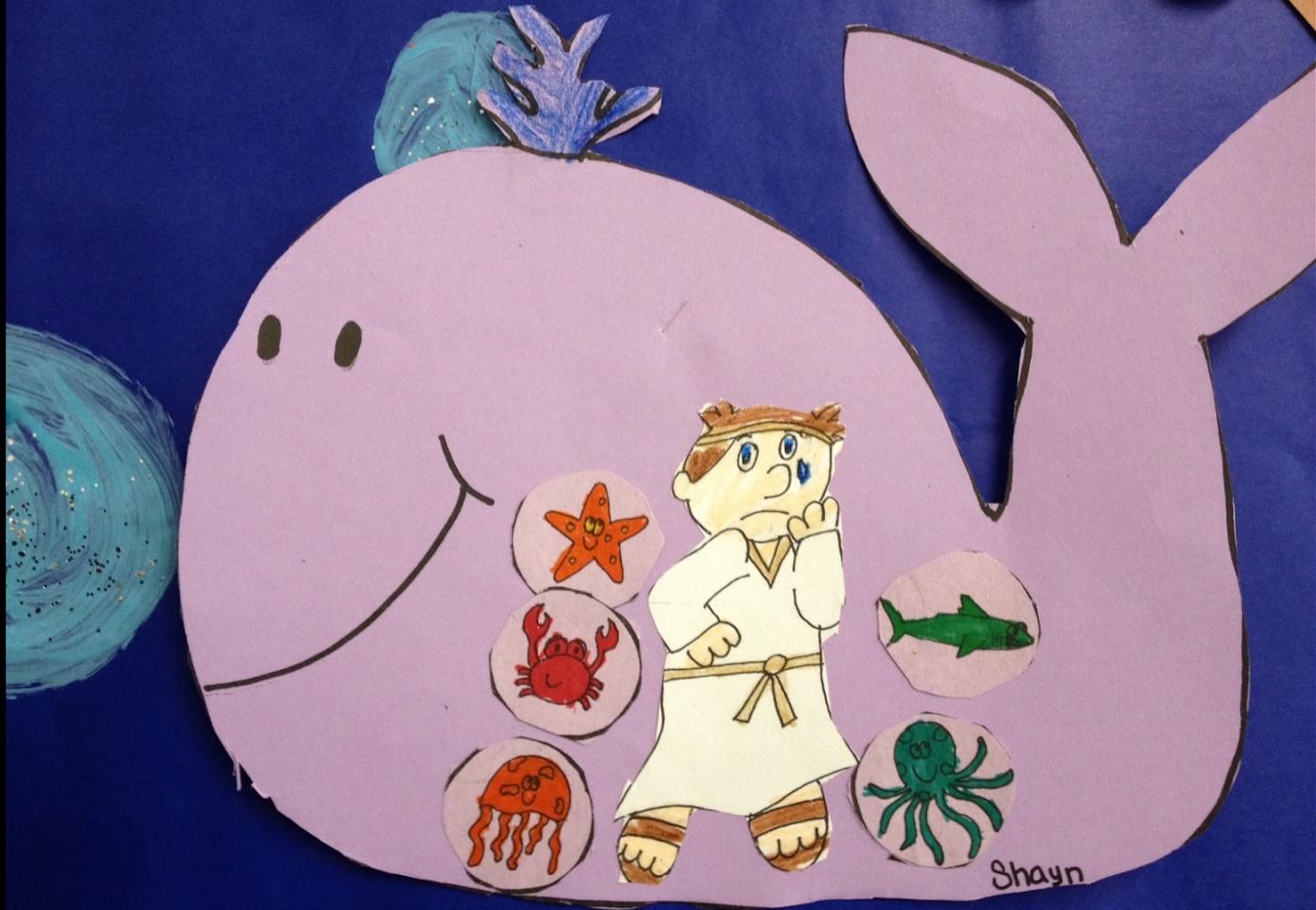
³⁸Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, “Teacher, we want to see a miraculous sign from you.”

³⁹He answered, “A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here. ⁴²The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon’s wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here.”

Did Jonah actually happen?

Four reasons why I think it is historical

- Author makes no attempt to make it clear that this is an allegory or historical fiction
- Everyone up until the 19th Century held the historicity of the book
- Jesus uses Jonah to describe another historical fact that was going to happen – his death and resurrection
[Matthew 12:38-41]
 - Personal witness...



Shayn



Fresh Fish. Mixed Vegetables.



BIG IDEAS
Jonah
a VeggieTales Movie



ONLY IN THEATERS FALL 2002 • JONAHMOVIE.COM

BIG IDEA

Jonah is given one job to do

Jonah 1:2

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai:

²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”

Jonah's Disobedience to his one job

Jonah 1:3

³But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.

Jonah runs!



The pagan sailors worship God!

Jonah 1:15-16

¹⁵Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. ¹⁶At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him.

¹⁷Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
JONAH

**THE GOD OF
SECOND CHANCES**



The God of Second Chances

Jonah 3:1-2

¹Then the word of the LORD came to
Jonah a second time:

²“Go to the great city of Nineveh
and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

The Response of God

Jonah 3:10

¹⁰When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Jonah's Disdain for a Relenting God

Jonah 4:1

¹But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry.

Jonah's Disdain for a Relenting God

Jonah 4:1

¹But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry.

LITERALLY:

“It was/became evil (or wrong) to Jonah
as a great evil (or wrong).”

Jonah's Disdain for a Relenting God

Jonah's "Prayer"

Jonah 4:2-3

²He prayed to the LORD, "O LORD, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³Now, O LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live."



Scene One: Jonah's Disdain for a Relenting God

God goes after the heart of the matter

Jonah 4:4

⁴But the LORD replied,
“Have you any right to be angry?”

Scene Two: The Object Lesson

The Vine



Scene Two: The Object Lesson

Think carefully about how you answer this, Jonah

Jonah 4:9

⁹But God said to Jonah,

“Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?”

“I do,” he said. “I am angry enough to die.”

Scene Two: The Object Lesson

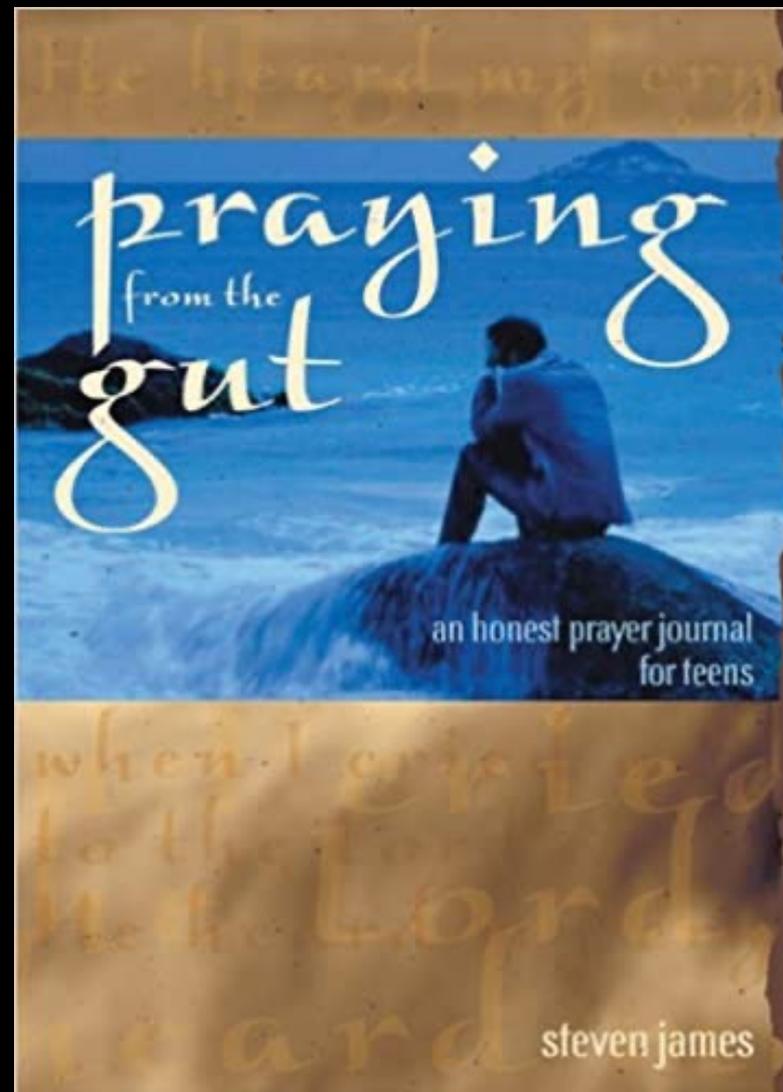
What are you concerned about?

Jonah 4:10-11

¹⁰But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this vine, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city?”

“A Prayer from the Gut”

~ Jonah 2



Jonah 2

¹From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God. ²He said:

“In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry. ³You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. ⁴I said, ‘I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.’ ⁵The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. ⁶To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God.

Jonah 2

⁷“When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.

⁸“Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs. ⁹But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD.”

¹⁰And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

The Circumstance that lead to prayer

Jonah 2:1

¹From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God.

I'm in trouble here.

Thanks?

Jonah 2:2

²He said:

“In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry. ³You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me.”

Now we see why we find grace not at the high points of our lives but in the valleys and depths, at the bottom. No human heart will learn its sinfulness and impotence by being told it is sinful. It will have to be shown—often in brutal experience. No human heart will dare to believe in such free, costly grace unless it is the only hope. It is a combination of hard circumstances, insight from the biblical gospel of atonement for sin, and prevailing prayer that can move us to wonder and amazement, even in the darkest, deepest places.

~ Tim Keller, *Rediscovering Jonah* (p. 79). Penguin Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

New York Times bestselling author of

THE REASON FOR GOD and THE PRODIGAL GOD

TIMOTHY
KELLER



REDISCOVERING
JONAH

The Secret of God's Mercy



Previously published as THE PRODIGAL PROPHECY

Repentance? Kinda...

Jonah 2:4-6

“⁴I said, ‘I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.’ ⁵The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. ⁶To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God.”

Jonah 2

Poorly done Repentance





Michel Martin Drolling (1786–1851), *Return of the Prodigal Son*, 1806, oil on canvas, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Strasbourg.

A Glimmer of Hope

Jonah 2:7

7“When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.”

Great Theology.

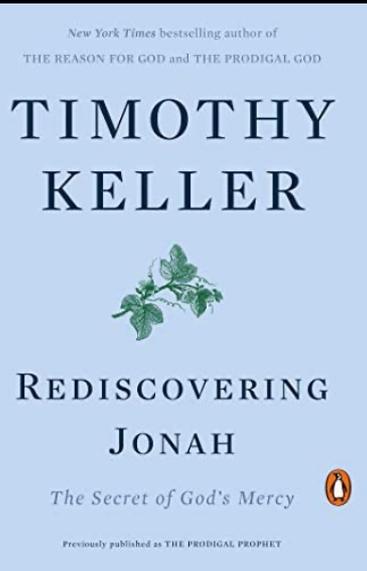
Really, really low emotional intelligence.

Jonah 2:7-10

⁸“Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs. ⁹But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD.”

In other words, despite his breakthrough here, Jonah has not grasped grace as deeply as we might at first think he has. There is still a sense of superiority and self-righteousness that will cause him to explode in anger when God has mercy on those Jonah sees as his inferiors. He sees the literal idols that the pagans worship and doesn't see the more subtle idols in his own life that keep him from fully grasping that he too, just like the heathen, lives only, equally by God's grace.

~ Tim Keller, *Rediscovering Jonah* (p. 79). Penguin Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.



God's response to a lame repentence prayer

Jonah 2:7-10

¹⁰And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited
Jonah onto dry land.

It is ever the Holy Spirit's work to turn our eyes away from self to Jesus; but Satan's work is just the opposite of this, for he is constantly trying to make us regard ourselves instead of Christ. He insinuates, 'Your sins are too great for pardon; you have no faith; you do not repent enough; you will never be able to continue to the end; you have not the joy of his children; you have such a wavering hold of Jesus.' All these are thoughts about self, and we shall never find comfort or assurance by looking within. But the Holy Spirit turns our eyes entirely away from self: he tells us that we are nothing, but that 'Christ is all in all.' Remember, therefore, it is not your hold of Christ that saves you — it is Christ; it is not your joy in Christ that saves you — it is Christ; it is not even faith in Christ, though that be the instrument —

it is Christ's blood and merits; therefore, look not so much to your hand with which thou art grasping Christ, as to Christ; **look not to your hope, but to Jesus, the source of your hope; look not to your faith, but to Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith.** We shall never find happiness by looking at our prayers, our doings, or our feelings; it is what Jesus is, not what we are, that gives rest to the soul. If we would at once overcome Satan and have peace with God, it must be by "looking unto Jesus." Keep thine eye simply on him; let his death, his sufferings, his merits, his glories, his intercession, be fresh upon your mind; when you wake in the morning look to him; when you lie down at night look to him. Oh! let not your hopes or fears come between you and Jesus; follow hard after him, and he will never fail you.

~ Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892), Look to Christ, Not to Self, from: *Morning and Evening*, Morning devotion for June 28.

Found at <https://www.monergism.com/look-christ-not-self-c-h-spurgeon>

Gospel Application

Gospel Application

*What does a prayer from the gut
look like for you?*