

*Yehovah*, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal

*Hayah*, 74x, to be, come to pass, exist, to come into being,

*ben*, 4906x, son, grandson, child, member of a group

1:1 **The word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai** *Amittay*, 2x my truth

*dabar*, 1439x, speech, word, speaking, thing

*Yonah*, 19x, dove; a native of Gath-hepher who prophesied during the reign of Jeroboam II

**saying,**

*'amar*, 5308x, to say, speak, utter

## The Command (v1-2)

*qum*, 628x, to rise, arise, stand; to arise in hostile sense, come on the scene

1:2

**“Arise,**

*Ninyneveh*, 17x, abode of Ninus, capital of the ancient kingdom of Assyria; located on the east bank of the Tigris river, 550 miles (880 km) from its mouth and 250 miles (400 km) north of Babylon

**go to Nineveh the great city,**

*halak*, 500x, to go, walk, come

*Gadol*, 529x, great; large in magnitude & extent, in number

*'iyar* or (plural) *'ar* or *'ayar*, 1089x, excitement, anguish (of terror); city, town (a place of waking, guarded)

**and**

*qara*, 735x, to call, call out, proclaim, cry out, to utter a loud sound, to summon & invite

**cry against it,**

**for**

*ra*: bad, disagreeable, malignant; evil (giving pain, unhappiness & misery), wicked (ethically) – of persons, thoughts and deeds; misery, distress, injury

*paniyim*, 2109x, face, faces; presence

**their wickedness has come up before Me.”**

*'alah*, 889x, to go up, ascend, climb, to come up (before God)

1:3 **But** *barach, 65x to go through, flee, run away, chase, put to flight, hurry away*

*Tarshiysh, 28x, yellow jasper; site unknown but perhaps in Cyprus or Spain, a city of the Phoenicians in a distant part of the Mediterranean Sea to which the prophet Jonah was trying to flee, va city somewhere near & accessible to the Red Sea to which ships constructed at Ezion-geber on the Elanitic Gulf on the Red Sea were to sail*

**Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish**

*qum, 628x to rise, arise, stand; to arise in hostile sense, come on the scene*

**from the presence of the LORD**

*paniym, 2109x, face, faces; presence*

**So** *yarad, 380x, to go down, descend, march down*

*Yapho, 4x beautiful, a town on the southwest coast of Palestine in the territory of Dan; became primary port of Jerusalem during reign of Solomon*

**he went down to Joppa,**

*Matsa, 456x to find – acquire, secure*

**found a ship which was going to Tarshish,**

*Bow', 2577x, to come, to go*

*'oniyah, 32x, ship, men of ships, seamen*

**paid the fare,** *Sakar, 28x, hire, wages, fare, fee, passage-money*

*nathan, 2008x, to give, pay wages, exchange*

**and**

*yarad, 380x, to go down, descend, march down*

**went down into it**

*Bow' 2577x, to come, to go*

**to go with them**

**to Tarshish**

*Yehovah, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal*

*paniym, 2109x, face, faces; presence*

**from the presence of the LORD**

## The Contradiction (v3)

## The Pursuit (v4a)

### 1:4 And

*Yehovah, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal*

*Ruwach, 378x, breath; wind – of heaven, breath of air, air, gas, mind; spirit*

the LORD hurled a great wind on the sea

*Tuwl, 14x, to throw away, hurl, cast, cast out*

*Gadol, 529x, great; large in magnitude & extent, in number*

*Yam, 396x, sea, Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Dead Sea, Sea of Galilee, sea (general), mighty river (Nile), the sea (the great basin in the temple court), seaward, west, westward*

and

*ca`ar, or (fem.) arah, 24x, tempest, storm, whirlwind*

there was a great storm on the sea

## The Great Storm (v4)

*'oniyah, 32x, ship, men of ships, seamen*

so that the ship was about to break up.

*Shabar, 150x, to break, break in pieces, wreck, rend violently*

## The Peril (v4b)

### 1:5 Then

*Mallach, 4x, mariner, sailor, seaman*

the sailors became afraid,

*yare, 314x, to fear, revere, afraid, honour, to stand in awe of*

and

*za`aq, 73x, to call (to one's aid); to call (in need), to summon, to have a proclamation made*

every man cried to his god,

*'elohiym, 2606x, (plural) rulers, judges, divine ones, angels, gods; (plural intensive - singular meaning) god, goddess, godlike one, the (true) God, God*

## The Panicky Sailors (v5a)

## The Panicky Sailors (v5a)

and

*Tuwl*, 14x, to throw away,  
hurl, cast, cast out

*'oniyah*, 32x, ship, men of ships, seamen

**they** threw the cargo which was in the ship

*k@liy*, 325x, article, vessel, implement,  
utensil, equipment, furniture

*Yam*, 396x, sea, Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Dead  
Sea, Sea of Galilee, sea (general), mighty river (Nile),  
the sea (the great basin in the temple court),  
seaward, west, westward

into the sea

*Qalal*, 82x, be light,

to lighten **it** for them.

But

*yarad*, 380x, to go down,  
descend, march down

*y@rekah*, 28x, flank, side,  
extreme parts, recesses

**Jonah** had gone below into the hold of the ship, *c@phiynah*, 1x, ship, vessel

*Shakab*, 212x, to lie down, lie on, to rest

lain down,

and

*Radam*, 7x, to be asleep, be unconscious, be in heavy sleep,  
fall into heavy sleep, be fast asleep (Jdg 4:21; Ps 76:6; Pr  
10:5; Dan 8:18; 10:9; Jon 1:5,6)

fallen sound asleep.

# The Censure of Jonah (v6)

1:6 **So** *Rab*, 458x, adj, much, many, great; n m captain, chief  
*Chobel*, 5x, sailor, seaman

**the captain approached him**

*Qarab*, 280x, to come near, approach, enter into, draw near  
**and**

*'amar*, 5308x, to say, speak, utter  
**said,**

*mah* or *ma*, 27x, interr pron, what, how, of what kind

*Radam*, 7x, to be asleep, be unconscious, be in heavy sleep, fall into heavy sleep, be fast asleep (Jdg 4:21; Ps 76:6; Pr 10:5; Dan 8:18; 10:9; Jon 1:5,6)

**“How is it that you are sleeping?”**

**Get up,** *qum*, 628x to rise, arise, stand; to arise in hostile sense, come on the scene

*qara*, 735x, to call, call out, proclaim, cry out, to utter a loud sound, to summon & invite

**call on your god.**

*'elohiym*, 2606x, (plural) rulers, judges, divine ones, angels, gods; (plural intensive - singular meaning) god, goddess, godlike one, the (true) God, God

**Perhaps your god will be concerned about us**

*'uwlav*, or (shortened) *ulav*, adv, 11x, perhaps, peradventure; if peradventure; unless; suppose

*'ashath*, 2x, to think

**so that**

*'abad*, 184x, perish, vanish, go astray, be destroyed; die, be exterminated, put to death 1c1a) of divine judgment

**we will not perish.”**

## The Casting of Lots (v7a)

1:7 And *'iysh*, 1638x, man, male (in contrast to woman, female), husband, human being, person (in contrast to God), servant, mankind; whoever; each

**each man** said to **his mate**, *rea` or reya`*, 188x, friend, companion, fellow, another person, intimate, fellow-citizen

*'amar*, 5308x, to say, speak, utter  
“Come, *halak*, 500x, to go, walk, come

*Naphal*, 434x, to fall, lie, be cast down,

let us cast lots *gowral* or (shortened) *goral*, 77x, lot - pebbles used for systematically making decisions; portion, (thing assigned by casting lots), recompense, retribution

SO

*Yada,* 947x, to know, learn to know, to perceive, find out and discern

we may learn on whose account

this calamity *has struck us.*”

*ra*: bad, disagreeable, malignant; evil (giving pain, unhappiness & misery), wicked (ethically) – of persons, thoughts and deeds; misery, distress, injury

So *Naphal*, 434x, to fall, lie, be cast down,

they cast lots *gowral* or (shortened) *goral*, 77x, lot - pebbles used for systematically making decisions; portion, (thing assigned by casting lots), recompense, retribution

and

*Naphal*, 434x, to fall, lie, be cast down,

the lot fell on **Jonah**.

## The Culprit Located (v7b)

# The Culprit Questioned (v8)

## 1:8 Then

'amar, 5308x, to say, speak, utter

**they said to him,**

*Nagad*, 370x, to be conspicuous, tell, make known, declare, announce, report, to inform

**“Tell us, now!”** *Na,* particle, 383x, I (we) pray, now, please, used in entreaty or exhortation

On whose account *has* this calamity struck **us**?

*ra*: bad, disagreeable, malignant; evil (giving pain, unhappiness & misery), wicked (ethically) – of

What is **your** occupation? *persons, thoughts and deeds; misery, distress, injury*

*m@la'kah*, 167x, occupation, work, business

And

*Bow*' 2577x, to come, to go

where **do you** come from?

What is **your** country?

*'erets*, 2504x, land, earth, country, territory, district, region, land of Canaan, Israel

*am*, 1861x, nation, people, persons, members of one's people, compatriots, country-men; kinsman, kindred

From what people are **you**?”

# The Culprit's Answer (v9)

1:9 And

*'amar, 5308x, to say, speak, utter*

**he** said to **them**,

**"I am a Hebrew,** *'Ibriy, 34x, Hebrew = "one from beyond", a designation of the patriarchs and the Israelites* **adj, a designation of the patriarchs and the Israelites**

and

*Yehovah, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal*

*'elohiym, 2606x, (plural) rulers, judges, divine ones, angels, gods; (plural intensive - singular meaning) god, goddess, godlike one, the (true) God, God*

**I fear the LORD God of heaven** *Shamayim, 420x, heaven, heavens, sky, as abode of the stars, as the visible universe, the sky, atmosphere, etc, Heaven (as the abode of God)*

*yare, 314x, to fear, revere, afraid, honour, to stand in awe of*

**who made the sea** *Yam, 396x, sea, Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Dead Sea, Sea of Galilee, sea (general), mighty river (Nile), the sea (the great basin in the temple court), seaward, west, westward*

*'asah, 2633x, to do, fashion, accomplish, make,*

and

*Yabbashah, 14x, dry land, dry ground*

**the dry land."**

1:10 Then

*yir'ah*, 45x, fear, terror, fearing,  
awesome or terrifying thing (object  
causing fear), fear (of God),  
respect, reverence, piety, revered

*Gadol*, 529x, great;  
large in magnitude  
& extent, in number

the men became extremely frightened

The Men's Fear (v10)

*'iysh*, 1638x, man, male  
and

*yare*, 314x, to fear, revere, afraid,  
honour, to stand in awe of

they said to him,

*'amar*, 5308x, to say, speak, utter

*'asah*, 2633x, to do, accomplish, make,

“How could you do this?”

For

*'iysh*, 1638x, man, male

*Yada*, 947x, to know, learn to know,  
to perceive, find out and discern

the men knew

*paniym*, 2109x, face,  
faces; presence

that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD,

*barach*, 65x to go through, flee, run away,  
chase, put to flight, hurry away

*Yehovah*, 6519x, the existing  
One; self existent or eternal

because

*Nagad*, 370x, to be conspicuous, tell, make  
known, declare, announce, report, to inform

he had told them.

## The Men's Query (v11a)

1:11 **So**

*'amar, 5308x, to say, speak, utter*

**they said to him,**

*'asah, 2633x, to do, accomplish, make,*

**“What should we do to you**

**that**

*Yam, 396x, sea*

**the sea may become calm for us?”**

*Shathaq, 4x, to be quiet, be silent (Ps 107:30; Pr 26:20; Jon 1:11,12)*

– **for**

*halak, 500x, to go, walk, come*

**the sea was becoming increasingly stormy.**

*ca`ar, 7x, to storm, rage, stormy, growing storm*

## The Increasingly Stormy Sea (v11b)

### Proverbs 26:20

For lack of wood the fire goes out,

And where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down.

# Jonah's Fearless Reply (v12)

1:12 And

*'amar, 5308x, to say, speak, utter*

**he said to them,**

*nasa', 654x, to lift, bear up, carry, take*

**"Pick me up**

**and**

*Tuwl, 14x, to throw away, hurl, cast, cast out*

*Yam, 396x, sea*

**throw me into the sea.**

**Then**

*Shathaq, 4x, to be quiet, be silent (Ps 107:30; Pr 26:20; Jon 1:11,12)*

**the sea will become calm for you,**

**for**

*Yada,` 947x, to know, learn to know, to perceive, find out and discern*

**I know that on account of me**

**this great storm has come upon you.'**

*Gadol, 529x, great; large in magnitude & extent, in number*

*ca`ar, 24x, tempest, storm, whirlwind*

## The Men's Desperate Try (v13a)

1:13 **However,**

*'iysh*, 1638x, man, male

*Shuwb*, 1066x, to return, turn back

**the men** rowed desperately to return to **land**

*Chathar*, 8x, to dig, row (in water)

*Yabbashah*, 14x, dry land, dry ground

**but**

*Yakol*, or *yakowl*, 195x, to prevail, overcome, endure, have power, be able, be able to gain, be victor, have strength

**they could not,**

## The Even Stormier Sea (v13b)

**for**

*Yam*, 396x, sea

*halak*, 500x, to go, walk, come

**the sea** was becoming **even stormier** against **them**.

*ca`ar*, 7x, to storm, rage, stormy, growing storm

1:14 **Then**

*qara*, 735x, to call, call out, proclaim, cry out, to utter a loud sound, to summon & invite

**they called on the LORD**

*Yehovah*, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal

**and**

## The Men's Earnest Prayer (v14)

'amar, 5308x, to say, speak, utter

# The Men's Earnest Prayer (v14)

said,

Yehovah, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal

“We earnestly pray, O LORD,

'iysh, 1638x, man, male

'anna', or 'annah, interjection, 13x, ah now! I/we beseech you, oh now!, pray now! (participle of entreaty usually followed by the imperative verb)

'abad, 184x, perish, vanish, go astray, be destroyed; die, be exterminated, put to death 1c1a) of divine judgment

do not let us perish on account of this man's life

and

Nepshesh, 751x, soul, self, life, creature, person, appetite, mind, living being, desire, emotion, passion, that which breathes, the breathing substance or being, soul, the inner being of man, seat of the appetites, seat of emotions and passions, activity of mind

nathan, 2008x, to give, pay wages, exchange

do not put innocent blood on us;

Naqiy, adj, 44x, clean, free from, exempt, clear, innocent, free from guilt, clean, innocent

Dam, 361X, blood

for

Yehovah, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal

Thou, O LORD, hast done

'asah, 2633x, to do, accomplish, make,

as Thou hast pleased.”

Chaphets, 75X, to delight in, take pleasure in, desire, be pleased with, of God - to delight in, have pleasure in, to be pleased to do

## The Men's Resolute Act (v15a)

1:15 **So**

*nasa'*, 654x, to lift, bear up, carry, take

they picked up Jonah,

*Tuwl*, 14x, to throw away, hurl, cast, cast out

threw him into the sea,

*Yam*, 396x, sea

and

*`amad*, 521x, to stand, remain; to stand still, stop  
(moving or doing), cease

the sea stopped its raging.

*za`aph*, 6x, rage, raging, storming, indignation

**Jonah 1:4** And the LORD hurled a great wind on the sea and there was a great storm on the sea so that the ship was about to break up.

**Jonah 1:5** Then the sailors became afraid, and every man cried to his god, and they threw the cargo which was in the ship into the sea to lighten *it* for them. But Jonah had gone below into the hold of the ship, lain down, and fallen sound asleep.

**Jonah 1:12** And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm *has come* upon you

**Jonah 1:15** So they picked up Jonah, threw him into the sea, and the sea stopped its raging.

## The LORD Feared (v16a)

### 16 Then

*'iysh*, 1638x,  
man, male

*yare*, 314x, to fear, revere, afraid,  
honour, to stand in awe of

the men feared the LORD greatly,

*Gadol*, 529x, great; large in  
magnitude & extent, in number

*Yehovah*, 6519x, the existing  
One; self existent or eternal

and

*Zabach*, 134x, to slaughter, kill,  
sacrifice, slaughter for sacrifice;  
to sacrifice, offer sacrifice

*Zebach*, 162x, sacrifice, sacrifices of  
righteousness, sacrifices of strife,  
sacrifices to dead things, the  
covenant sacrifice, the passover,  
annual sacrifice, thank offering

they offered a sacrifice to the LORD

*Yehovah*, 6519x, the existing  
One; self existent or eternal

and

*Nadar*, 31x, to vow, make a  
vow, to vow a vow

made vows.

*neder* or *neder*, 60x,  
vow, votive offering

## The Sacrifice Made (v16a)

# Jonah Swallowed (v17a)

1:17 And

*Yehovah*, 6519x, the existing One; self existent or eternal

*Gadol*, 529x, great; large in magnitude & extent, in number

the LORD appointed a great fish *Dag*, 20x, fish

*Manah*, 28x, to count, reckon, number, assign, tell, appoint, prepare

*bala`*, 49x, to swallow down, swallow up, engulf, eat up

to swallow **Jonah**,

and

*me`eh*, 32x, internal organs, inward parts, bowels, intestines, belly, digestive organs, organs of procreation, womb, place of emotions or distress or love (fig.), external belly

# Jonah's Stay (v17b)

**Jonah** was in the stomach of the fish three days

and

three nights.

## Perspective of Unbelievers

Only the children of God have an accurate understanding of what's happening in the world because they have the "more sure word of prophecy"

But unbelievers have only the evidence of their eyes and whatever else they may have gained through their life and knowledge (cf. Haggai 2:15-17; Amos 4:6-12).

God communicates to His children always by His Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes and His ways.

God communicates to unbelievers through creation (Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 1:19-23) and their conscience (Romans 2:14-15) and through the circumstances if they can understand (see 1 Samuel 6:1-12).

What then can you make of Hurricane Katrina which ravaged New Orleans, USA from 23-29 August, 2005 with total estimated damages of US\$200 billion? What about Hurricane Rita (September 17-26, 2005), which is on record as the strongest measured hurricane to ever have entered the Gulf of Mexico, and the fourth most intense hurricane ever in the Atlantic Basin, causing insured estimated damages of US\$8 billion? As Hurricane Wilma is still raging through Florida and Mexico, at the same time, a record 22nd tropical storm is forming in the Atlantic. Forecasters have run out of alphabets to name the storms and have moved on to the Greek Alphabet. They call it Tropical Depression Alpha and are monitoring it closely.

What is the message that God wants conveyed to unbelievers? Just as Jonah knew the cause of the storm, what do you, a believer in the Creator-God, make of these storms (literal and/or metaphorical)? What is God saying to you? Are you an obedient believer or a disobedient one? What message would you convey to the unbelievers in your midst?

Your answer will affect your response to the storm in your life. If you don't have any storms right now, think of someone you know who has and evaluate what is happening in their lives and take the appropriate actions, i.e., pray before speaking to them or offering help.

1. Is the storm due to your own disobedience?

Then prayer and repentance are needed, e.g., Jonah. As soon as you confess sin and turn from it, we trust the storm will stop as quickly as it did with Jonah.

2. Is the storm due to someone else's disobedience?

Then ask for wisdom and insight as to how you may protect yourself and others caught in the same storm, e.g., Paul in a storm in Acts 27-28, and the sailors on Jonah's ship. There will be some loss and difficult moments but believe that God will speak to you in that storm and even use you to minister to those causing it.

3. Did the storm arise from your obedience to the Lord?

Then hold on and ride out the storm in faith, without fear, because it's a test intended to make you grow and mature, e.g., the disciples in the boat with Jesus in Matthew 9:23-27. Realize that God is still with you and rest in His protection.

## The Response of the Sailors

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Feared, yare' א AV - 314x א gal imperfect, 1) to fear, revere, be afraid 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to fear, be afraid 1a2) to stand in awe of, be awed 1a3) to fear, reverence, honour, respect

The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament (TWOT) says that the biblical usages of yare are divided into five general categories: 1) the emotion of fear, 2) the intellectual anticipation of evil without emphasis upon the emotional reaction, 3) reverence or awe, 4) righteous behaviour or piety, and 5) formal religious worship. Major OT synonyms include pahad, hatat, and harad as well as several words referring to shaking or quaking as a result of fear.

However, when used in the sense of formal religious worship, it may not necessarily mean true worship unto the One True God of Israel such as in 2 Kings 17:32-35 as contrasted to Job 1:8-9 and 2 Chronicles 6:33.

## Sacrifices to God/other gods

Most of the sacrifices in the Scriptures are done by the people of Israel to their God. However there are some exceptions below.

1. Exodus 18:12 (this was before the Law was given at Mount Sinai in Exodus 20-24) – Jethro offered a burnt offering and sacrifices for God
2. Leviticus 17:7 – Israel offered sacrifices to the goat demons
3. Numbers 25:1-2 - Israel at Shittim joined with the daughters of Moab in their sacrifices of their gods
4. Judges 16:23 - the Philistines offered sacrifices to Dagon their god

## Vows to the LORD

Genesis 28:20-22 - Jacob's vow to God

Numbers 30:2-9 – vows of a man, a single girl and a married woman

Deuteronomy 23:21-23 – don't delay to pay your vows

Psalms 66:13-15 – vows to the LORD are paid in the Temple in Jerusalem

## Jonah's Response to God

Once a believer refuses to read the Bible, pray or have anything to do with all other believers, there is but only one means of communication left through which God would communicate with His child - adverse circumstances!

Sleeping?! A sleeping prophet in the midst of storms! Unimaginable! Perhaps it's because the storm outside seemed insignificant in comparison to the storm raging inside, the storm that came from his resistance to God.

Note: All the sailors were religious men, devout in their prayers to their gods. Yet their gods were really nothing, and could do nothing. There was one man on board who had a relationship with the true God, knew His Word, and worshipped Him - yet he was asleep!

"Jonah was asleep amid all that confusion and noise; and, O Christian man, for you to be indifferent to all that is going on in such a world as this, for you to be negligent of God's work in such a time as this is just as strange. The devil alone is making noise enough to wake all the Jonahs if they only want to awake. All around us there is tumult and storm, yet some professing Christians are able, like Jonah, to go to sleep in the sides of the ship." (Spurgeon)