

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

292 A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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MY NAME

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JONAH

- Much More Than A “Fish” Story** The Book of Jonah is a very interesting. Some have considered it an allegory; referring entirely to Manasseh, others think that instead of a fish, a ship is meant, having the image of a whale on the stern, some believe that the account of Jonah was a dream which he had, and still others claim that the whole book is a parable. Jesus settles the matter as he (Mt 12:39-40) calls him “*the _____ Jonas.*” He states, “*For as Jonas was _____ days and three _____ in the _____ belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the _____ of the _____.*”
- Particulars** All we know for certain is that Jonah, a Galilean, the son of Amittai, the fifth minor prophet, was a native of Gath-hepher. God (Jonah 1:2) told him, “*Arise, go to _____, that _____ city, and cry _____ it.*” Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian Empire, one of the world’s oldest and largest cities, was very (V2) _____.
- Jonah Disobeyed** (V3) “*But Jonah _____ up to _____ --- from the _____ of the LORD.*” This is reminiscent of Adam and Eve (Gen 3:8) who unsuccessfully “*hid _____ from the _____ of the LORD.*” Jonah (1:3) “*went down to _____; and he found a _____ going to _____: so he _____ the _____ thereof, and went down into it.*” It is supposed that Tarshish was Tartessus, in Spain, Tarsus, in Cilicia, or Taprobana, or the island of Ceylon.
- God Took Remedial Measures** (V4) “*The LORD _____ out a great _____ into the sea.*” Obviously this was God’s supernatural intervention over nature. (V5) “*The _____ were afraid.*” These were seagoing men but now they “*cried _____ man unto his _____, and cast forth the _____ that were in the ship into the sea, to _____ it.*” Jonah “*was fast _____.*” It is ironic that Jonah, the source of the problem, was asleep when everyone else on the ship was in fearful turmoil. The captain woke him (V6) and said, “*Arise, _____ thy God.*” Jonah had fled from Jehovah and was now being implored to pray to Him.
- Jonah Admits His Guilt** (V7) “*They cast _____, and the lot _____ upon _____.*” They began to question him. He answered: (V9) “*I am an _____; and I _____ the LORD, the _____ of _____.*” He told them he was fleeing the presence of God (V10) and they wanted an explanation. When asked what they should do he took responsibility and said (V12), “*_____ me forth _____ the _____.*”
- What Happened?** They resisted doing so at first but eventually (V15) “*_____ him forth into the _____*” and the sea calmed. The mariners now (V16) “*_____ the LORD exceedingly, and _____ a _____.*”
- The Fish** Just as God caused the storm he (V17) “*had _____ a great _____ to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the _____ of the fish three _____ and three _____.*” There is no doubt that this was a “special” fish – a “whale of a fish.”