

Jonah and BLM

Jonah is a Bible story that every kid thinks they know, but no one tells them the real story. I believe people should know the whole story, warts and all, so I'll tell you the story but you won't believe me, you'll think I'm making the whole thing up (I wish I had that good an imagination).

So this prophet is not like all the other prophets. If you read Jeremiah he also walks around telling them God is going to judge them, but his message is to repent. [Jeremiah 18:8](#) and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. But Jonah, he knows that God will relent and not inflict evil if the nation he warns repents, so he doesn't want to warn them. He hates Nineveh, this really evil city, and he hates their really evil king. All he wants is for God to inflict the disaster he is planning, so when God tells him to go to Nineveh he runs in the opposite direction. But the story gets weirder, he is on a boat running away, the boat is about to sink when the sailors learn that it is because he is running from God and they ask him what they should do to please God. Jonah tells them they need to throw him overboard? This is how much Jonah hated Nineveh, he would rather die than see them repent. So these sailors all beg God forgiveness that he doesn't hold this against them, they do what Jonah said, and then they worship God. But then a fish swallows him and takes him to Nineveh (this is the part we tell kids). So the fish vomited Jonah up on the beach near Nineveh and he goes to this great city. It says it will take him four days to walk through the city but after the first day they all repent. From the evil king all the way down to their cows. What does Jonah preach? All he says is that in forty days you will be overthrown (doesn't ask them to repent, doesn't tell them God will forgive if they repent, nope, just you all are doomed). But that is not the end, because if it was you might not really understand. Jonah then goes away from the city in the hills to watch. He is hoping that they will repent of repenting and that then they will be judged, maybe fire falling from the sky like Sodom and Gomorrah. He is angry and he tells God this is why he didn't want to come because he knew God would forgive and have compassion on them! Can you believe this guy is a "prophet of God". To really bring home the point of how much he hates them, a tree that was shading him dies. Jonah blames God for that as well. He is now angry for two things, he is

angry because God didn't wipe out 120,000 people in the city and he is angry that God did wipe out the tree that was giving him shade!

So look, I get it, people back then don't make any sense at all. So instead let's consider the Black Lives Movement and say that their leaders are prophets of God, like Jonah. The "great city Nineveh" that Jonah hates so much will be the United States, a country of people who "don't know their right from their left" according to God. The sailors that threw these protestors into the ocean to die will be the cops. The fish that brought them across the ocean to Nineveh and vomited them onto the land, that will be the slave trade.

If we do that then the story goes like this. God spoke to the leaders of the Black Lives Matter movement to go tell the evil king of the United States (Donald Trump) to repent or else they will be judged. These guys knew that God would forgive them and that was the last thing they wanted, so they ran the other way. Meanwhile this great storm has arisen, we have a pandemic raging throughout the entire world, we have climate change causing "biblical fires" in the arctic, in Siberia, in California and in Australia. It is also causing record breaking hurricanes, drought and floods. In the midst of this the cops go down into the ship, find these prophets of BLM, and wake them up. These prophets tell them that the "chickens have come home to roost" for all their sins. They want to know what they need to do? These prophets want the police to throw them into the sea, get the whole thing on video, and post a video that will go viral for all to see. They know they can't fake it like Jussie Smollett, no, the cops need to do it. So they do that, but they beg God not to hold this sin to their account. And they worship God by sacrificing everyone who says or does anything that could be construed as an insult to God and to Black Lives Matter. Meanwhile the BLM prophets tell us how horrible slavery was. They were "deep in the realm of the dead", God "hurled them into the depths, into the very heart of the sea", "I said I have been banished", "seaweed wrapped around my head, to the roots of the mountain I sank down", "But you, Lord my God, brought my life up from the pit", "What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, 'salvation comes from the Lord'". So they go to the great cities in the US and their message is "No justice, no peace". But they repent! According to the Bible it will take Jonah four days to walk through the city (similar to the protests by the BLM), but they repent after 1 day! They even write "Black Lives Matter" in big giant letters in front of the Whitehouse where the Evil king Trump lives,

and also in front of his house in NYC. Everyone in the entire country repents, managers of restaurants are fired, politicians are fired, any person found to say one thing against them is fired. Are they happy? Well, one prophet said "If this country doesn't give us what we want we will burn down the system" (Hawk Newsome) and another said the fourth of July was "a celebration of white supremacy" (Colin Kaepernick).

Now Jesus says that just like Jonah was in the belly of the fish He will be buried for three days and three nights. So in some ways Jesus is very similar to Jonah, only without sin. He was sent from heaven to preach salvation to us, He walked in love, whereas Jonah was full of hate. Like Jonah He was treated unrighteously with a monkey trial, all kinds of corruption and Roman privilege. The Bible says He was "in all things like us, only without sin".

So, if you don't believe me, I have included the entire story right here, check it out yourself and tell me there aren't some really weird stories in the Bible.

Jonah

1 The 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."

3 But 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.

4 Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. **5** All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship.

But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. **6** The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish."

7 Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. **8** So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"

9 He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

10 This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the Lord, because he had already told them so.)

11 The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"

12 "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."

13 Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. **14** Then they cried out to the Lord, "Please, Lord, do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, Lord, have done as you pleased." **15** Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. **16** At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to him.

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

2

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

"In my distress I called to the Lord,

and he answered me.

From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help,

and you listened to my cry.

3 You hurled me into the depths,

into the very heart of the seas,

and the currents swirled about me;

all your waves and breakers

swept over me.

4 I said, 'I have been banished

from your sight;

yet I will look again

toward your holy temple.'

5 The engulfing waters threatened me,

the deep surrounded me;

seaweed was wrapped around my head.

6 To the roots of the mountains I sank down;

the earth beneath barred me in forever.

But you, Lord my God,

brought my life up from the pit.

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

turn away from God's love for them.

9 But I, with shouts of grateful praise,

will sacrifice to you.

What I have vowed I will make good.

I will say, 'Salvation comes from the Lord.'"

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

3 Then 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."

3 Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. **4** Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." **5** The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

6 When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. **7** This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh:

"By the decree of the king and his nobles:

Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink.**8** But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. **9** Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.” **10** When 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.

4 But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. **2** He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing 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. **3** Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.” **4** But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?” **5** Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. **6** Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. **7** But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. **8** When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.” **9** But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” “It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.” **10** But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. **11** And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand

people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Sorry, I forgot to mention that last thing about the animals (I figured you wouldn't believe me). Apparently these people in Nineveh were so clueless that many cared more about how animals were treated more than how people were treated. Yes, I used BLM prophets as an example, but at the same time there were people demanding the ethical treatment of animals as well. God heard them all. There is one other weird thing that absolutely no one talks about in this story because, frankly, it just makes the Bible seem completely unbelievable. There were other prophets who were very angry about trees dying, but didn't care if God wiped out all the people and cities, just so long as the blasting heat and pestilence didn't wipe out the trees. The climate changed while Jonah was hoping to see God rain down fire on Nineveh. Jonah represents all of these "angry prophets". Oh yeah, even the cows repented, what was that all about? Apparently the cows were farting and that was what was changing the climate and making the plants die. Laugh if you want, I'm just telling you what the story said.