

2. Jonah Son of Amittai

We read about Jonah son of Amittai in 2 Kings 14

²³ In the fifteenth year of Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel became king in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. ²⁴ He did evil in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn away from any of the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit. ²⁵ Jeroboam II was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Sea of the Arabah, **in accordance with the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, spoken through his servant Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath Hepher.**

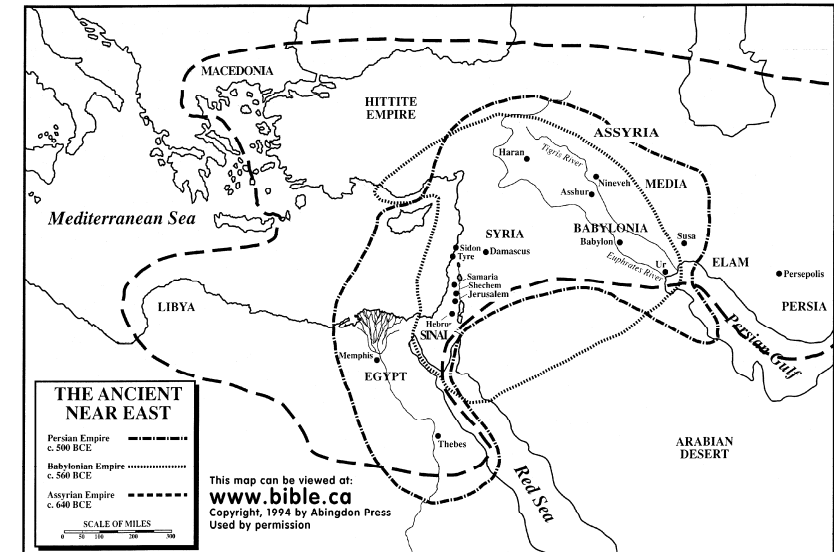
3. Ninevah

Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, was situated on the eastern bank of the river Tigris, opposite the present Mosul, about 280 miles north of Babylon, 400 N. E. of Damascus, in latitude 36° 20' N. longitude 73° 10' E. It was not only a very ancient, (Ge 10:11,) but also a very great city. Strabo says that it was much larger than Babylon, the circuit of which he estimates at 385 furlongs;

Diodorus Siculus, (that well known ancient near eastern travel editor) records it was an oblong parallelogram, extending 150 furlongs in length, 90 in breadth, and 480 in circumference, i.e., about 20 miles long, 12 broad, and 60 in compass. This agrees with the account given here of its being “an exceeding great city of three days’ journey,” i.e., in circuit; for 20 miles a day was the common computation for a pedestrian. It was surrounded by large walls 100 feet high, so broad that three chariots could drive abreast on them, and defended by 1,500 towers 200 feet in height.

4. The Lord appointed

- a. But the LORD appointed a great wind upon the sea...
- b. And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah...
- c. And the LORD God appointed a plant, and made it cover Jonah
- d. God appointed a worm which attacked the plant
- e. God appointed a sultry east wind, and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah



5. The Good News about judgment

The LORD saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. ⁶ The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. Genesis 6

²⁰ Then the LORD said, “The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous ²¹ that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know.”

“Arise, go to Nineveh the great city, and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me.”

6. Jonah and Jesus

Luke 11: 29:32 & Matthew 12:38-42

³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.”

³⁹ But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth.

⁴¹ The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here!

⁴² The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!

7. A story about mercy

Three characters

Beginners guide to 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.”

1. The Word of the Lord

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. Genesis 1

The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. ² “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

⁹ “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Isaiah 11

Psalms 19, 119

² The word of the LORD came to him in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, ³ and through the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, Jeremiah