

# The Prodigal Prophet

## *Jonah 1 Introduction*

v 1-2. The Call: Jonah is to exercise the nation's priestly position and the Abrahamic Covenant. "In you shall the nations be blessed."

v 3. The Response: Disobedience. As Israel had abandoned her calling and was about to leave the land, so would Jonah.

v 4. God's response: Opposition ... a great wind  
great storm  
great disaster  
Just as life is about to become disastrous for Israel.

### *Note the word "down"*

v 5. The sailors: they fear *such are all the nations*  
in their ignorance  
and futility

Jonah, the Jew, has the answer but is asleep. He is...

- disobedient
- uncaring

Contrast Jesus in the boat, as well as Paul on the ship

v 6. The pagans rebuke Jonah: "How can you be so uncaring when men are dying?"  
· 5 times the Gentile will surpass the Jew.  
· And the question of dying pagans? "Do you have a god of power and compassion who can save us?"

v 7. But Jonah does not arise ... even when lots are cast.  
But God exposed him  
as indeed God has made Israel a proverb to the world.

v 8. "Confess!"

v 9. And Jonah does, both here in 2:9 and 4:2  
God is infinite, mighty, saving and good  
Jonah has his catechism straight. He knows the answers.  
He just doesn't care.

v 10. And he again is rebuked-  
with the classic rebuke of God to Adam, "what have you done?"  
"With such a God how could you be silent!?"

v11-12 Jonah knows the solution – atonement  
The most fundamental of all O.T. ideas

v 13. But again the pagans rebuke Jonah by their actions

v 14. "God forgive us" as they were following through on a divine plan.

Peter said the same Acts 2:23  
As did Paul Romans 11:11

v 15-16 Their sacrifice is visibly acceptable, just as when Christ died.  
And now they have a greater fear of God ... the 2<sup>nd</sup> death.  
So they repent and believe in God

- they confess God
- offer sacrifice
- make vows of obedience

v 17. Is the Jew lost? It would look like it. Swallowed and gone; just as today.

But no... God has a tomorrow for the disobedient Jew.