

RUSSELL SANDERS
8-14-2020
JONAH – PART 5
Ch 1 vs. 5-6

As the ship which Jonah had boarded sailed toward Tarshish, a mighty storm arose that was threatening to break up or sink the boat. The Mediterranean Sea was known for such storms.

In v. 5 it says, ***“Then the mariners (seamen) were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares (cargo) that were in the ship into the sea to lighten it of them.”***

They were terrified that the ship was certain to sink. They supposed that by discharging the cargo that the ship would rise higher to avoid taking on so much water. That these men were religious is shown by them calling upon their pagan gods to save them. Nothing seemed to be working. Fear was overwhelming them.

Where was Jonah? In verse 5 it says, ***“But Jonah was gone down into the (insides) of the ship; and he lay (in the sleeping quarters) fast asleep.”*** There is less feeling of the tossing of the ship down “below” than up “topside.” Jonah had no fear; he was sleeping peacefully, the same as Jesus was sleeping peacefully during a storm on the Sea of Galilee while his disciples topside were scared witless over the storm tossing their ship.

In Verse 6 (NKJV) it says ***“So the captain came to him, and said to him, ‘What do you mean (to do) sleeper? Arise, call on your God (Elohim). Perhaps your God will consider us, so that we may not perish.’ So, Jonah went up topside with the shipmaster (captain).”***

It would appear that Jonah, without fear, was confident that God would take care of His prophet. Likewise, God will take care of us (Psalm 91) when the raging turmoil around us is threatening destruction. We must simply trust Him, pray, praise, and worship throughout the storm, and in faith “see” God’s deliverance for you.