

TURNING TO GOD

Jonah 3:1-10

Then the Lord spoke to the fish,
and it spewed Jonah out upon
the dry land.

Jonah 2:10

The word of the Lord came to
Jonah a second time, saying,
'Get up, go to Nineveh, that
great city, and proclaim to it
the message that I tell you.'
So Jonah set out and went to
Nineveh, according to the
word of the Lord. Jonah 3:1-3a

JONAH REDUX (JONAH 3:1-4)

1. A second chance (v1)
2. Jonah's obedience (v2-3a)
3. Jonah's message (v4)

And the people of Nineveh
believed God; they proclaimed a
fast, and everyone, great and
small, put on sackcloth.
When the news reached the king
of Nineveh, he rose from his
throne, removed his robe,
covered himself with sackcloth,
and sat in ashes. Jonah 3:5-6

A SURPRISING RESPONSE

Jonah 3:5-9

FROM YAHWEH TO ELOHIM

3:1,3 – *Yahweh* – God in
covenant with Israel
3:5,9,10 – *Elohim* – Creator, all
powerful

“CRY MIGHTILY TO GOD” (V8)

Biblical theology tells us that metanoia is a deep change of heart and thinking; a complete reorientation toward God which results in a new pattern of actions and reactions.

It is our total surrender to God with a firm determination to fulfill God's will in all things.

Peter van Breemen

“Return O Israel unto the Lord your God” is the cry of the Hebrew Prophets that has rung out throughout the generations whenever our people have drifted away from Him. Central to our faith is the notion that it is never too late for such a return.

Whether one is six or sixty, ten or a hundred, he is called upon to purify his heart and his thoughts and to direct or redirect himself to the Almighty.

Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin
in “To Be a Jew”

WHO KNOWS ... GOD MAY CHANGE HIS MIND (V9)

God may *relent* (NIV) / have compassion and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Jonah 3:10

GOD'S COMPASSION FOR NINEVEH

Jonah 3:10

1. God demonstrates compassion/ pardons the city
2. Raises the question: Who cares for the city of Nineveh?

3. Contrast once again between Insiders & Outsiders
4. A call for Insiders to show compassion –
 - Matthew 5:13-16;
 - 2 Corinthians 5:18-21;
 - 2 Peter 3:9

5. Jesus' compassion for us
 "For just as Jonah was for 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." (Matthew 12:40)