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# Commentary On Jonah (Spurgeon Commentary Series)



## Synopsis

Baptist pastor Charles Haddon Spurgeon is remembered today as the Prince of Preachers. But in addition to his sermons, he regularly reading a Bible passage before his message and gave a verse-by-verse exposition, rich in gospel insight and wisdom for the Christian life.===Sample: Jonah 2:1-4===1. Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fishâ™s belly. What a strange place for prayer! Surely this is the only prayer that ever went up to God out of a fishâ™s belly. Jonah found himself alive;â™ that was the surprising thing, that he was alive in the belly of a fish;â™ and because he was alive, he began to pray. It is such a wonder that some people here should continue to live that they ought to begin to pray. If you live with death so near, and in so great peril, and yet you do not pray, what is to become of you? This prayer of Jonah is very remarkable because it is not a prayer at all in the sense in which we usually apply the word to petition and supplication. If you read the prayer through, you will see that it is almost all thanksgiving; and the best prayer in all the world is a prayer that is full of thankfulness. We praise the Lord for what he has done for us, and thus we do, in effect, ask him to perfect the work which he has begun. He has delivered us, so we bless his holy name, and by implication we beseech him still to deliver us. Notice that it says here, âœThen Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God.â • He was a runaway; he had tried to escape from the presence of God; yet the Lord was still his God. God will not lose any of his people, even if, like Jonah, they are in the belly of a fish, Jehovah is still their God: âœThen Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fishâ™s belly,â • 2. And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me, You see that this is not praying, it is telling the Lord what he had done for his disobedient servant. Jonah had prayed, and the Lord had heard him, yet he was still in the fishâ™s belly. Unbelief would have said, âœYou have lived so long; Jonah; but you cannot expect to live to get out of this dreary, damp, fetid prison.â • Ah, but faith is out of prison even while she is in it. Faith begins to tell what God has done before the great work is actually accomplished; so Jonah said, âœI cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me;â • âœout of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice. He was like a man in the unseen world among the dead. He felt that he was condemned and cast away; yet God had heard him, and now he sings about it in the belly of the fish. No other fish that ever lived had a live man inside him singing praises unto God. 3. For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; The word Jonah used implies that God had violently cast him away into the deep. âœCast me not off,â • prayed David, but here is a man who says that God did cast him out like a thing flung overboard into the vasty deep: and the floods compassed me about:âœ They rolled all over me, beneath me, above me, around me; âœThe floods compassed me about:â™â • âœall thy billows and

thy waves passed over me. Jonah had evidently read his Bible; at least, he had read the 42nd Psalm, for he quotes it here. It is a blessed thing to have the Bible in your mind and heart so that, wherever you may be, you do not need to turn to the Book because you have the Book inside you. Here is a man inside a fish with a Book inside of him; and it was the Book inside of him that brought him out from the fish again.<sup>4</sup> Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. What grand faith Job displayed when he said, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him;" and here is another splendid manifestation of faith, "I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple."™ If God does not look at me, I will still look towards the place where he dwells. As I am bein

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## Customer Reviews

Spurgeon again helps us to make sense of God's word in order that we can learn and apply God's principles to our own lives.

It was enlightening. There were some passages that were not clear until I read the commentary.

Sharon

Thought it was very informative , I'm a huge Spurgeon fan !

Great resource

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