

Title: A Whale of a Story

Text: Jonah (Dove)

Target: God's providence will always get you to His purpose.

- I. **A Call to Go:** *"Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go..." (1:1-2)*
 - A. **To a Place:** *"to Nineveh, that great city," (1:2) *Mosul, Iraq*
 - B. **To a People:** *"and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me." (1:2)*
- II. **A Place to Run:** *"But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish" (1:3)*
 - A. **Far from God's Presence:** *"from the presence of the LORD" (2x) (1:3)*
 - B. **Far from a Ninevite People:** *"He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish," (1:3)*
*Southern Spain 2500 miles away
- III. **A Storm that Blows:** *"But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea," (1:4)*
 - A. **Causing Fear:** *Then the mariners were afraid (1:5)*
 - B. **Creating Faith:** *each cried out to his god (1:5)*
- IV. **A Crew that Knows:**
 - A. **Roll of the Dice:** *Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us. (1:7)*
 - B. **Revelation of Defiance:** *For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them. (1:10)*
- V. **A Fish to Catch:** *And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah (1:17)*
 - A. **Prayer of Distress:** *I called out to the LORD, out of my distress (2:2)*
 - B. **Purpose to Deliver:** *And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land. (2:10)*
- VI. **A City that Repents:** *And the people of Nineveh believed God. (3:5)*
 - A. **A Second Chance:** *Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time (3:1)*
 - B. **A Sermon that's Concise:** *Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" (3:4)*
 - C. **A Scene of Compassion:** *God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it. (3:10)*
- VII. **A Preacher that Quits:**
 - A. **His Complaint:** *But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry (4:1)*
 - B. **God's Comfort:** *God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort (4:6)*
 - C. **His Criticism:** *Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die (4:9)*
- VIII. **A God who Cares:** *And should not I pity Nineveh, ...more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle (4:11)*

Take Away: God is a God of second chances that turns what we think are mistakes into defining moments.