

# JONAH “DOVE”

*So they said to him, "What should we do to you that the sea may become calm for us?"—for the sea was becoming increasingly stormy. He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm has come upon you."* However, the men rowed desperately to return to land but they could not, for the sea was becoming even stormier against them. Then they called on the LORD and said, *"We earnestly pray, O LORD, do not let us perish on account of this man's life and do not put innocent blood on us; for You, O LORD, have done as You have pleased."* So they picked up Jonah, threw him into the sea, and the sea stopped its raging. Then the men feared the LORD greatly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows. *And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.* —Jonah 1:11-17 NASB

The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven. He replied, *"When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,' and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a miraculous sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah."* Jesus then left them and went away. —Matthew 16:1-4 NASB

Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. *Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat.* But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" *He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"* —Matthew 8:23-27 NASB

*For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, "Do not fear; I will help you. Do not be afraid, O worm Jacob, O little Israel, for I myself will help you," declares the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.* —Isaiah 41:13-14 NASB

*So the LORD God appointed a plant* and it grew up over Jonah to be a shade over his head to deliver him from his discomfort. And Jonah was extremely happy about the plant. *But God appointed a worm when dawn came the next day and it attacked the plant and it withered.* When the sun came up God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he became faint and begged with all his soul to die, saying, "Death is better to me than life." Then God said to Jonah, "Do you have good reason to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "I have good reason to be angry, even to death." Then the LORD said, *"You had compassion on the plant for which you did not work and which you did not cause to grow, which came up overnight and perished overnight. Should I not have compassion on Nineveh,* the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?" —Jonah 4:5-11 NASB

"Dominion and awe belong to God; he establishes order in the heights of heaven. Can his forces be numbered? Upon whom does his light not rise? *How then can a man be righteous before God? How can one born of woman be pure? If even the moon is not bright and the stars are not pure in his eyes, how much less man, who is but a maggot—a son of man, who is only a worm!*" —Job 25:2-6 NASB

*For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground,* He has no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. *He was despised and forsaken of men,* a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. —Isaiah 53:2-3 NASB

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?* O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent. Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel. In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed. *But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads: "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."* —Psalm 22:1-8 NASB

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"* When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah." Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. *The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."* And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. —Matthew 15:45-50 NASB

*As heat and drought snatch away the melted snow, so the grave snatches away those who have sinned. The womb forgets them, the worm feasts on them; evil men are no longer remembered but are broken like a tree.* —Job 24:19-20 NASB

Early in the morning, as he was on his way back to the city, he was hungry. *Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, "May you never bear fruit again!" Immediately the tree withered.* When the disciples saw this, they were amazed. "How did the fig tree wither so quickly?" they asked. Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, *not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done.* If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." —Matthew 21:18-21 NASB

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe to stumble, it would be better for him if, with a heavy millstone hung around his neck, *he had been cast into the sea.* If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two hands, to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire, [*where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED.*] If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame, than, having your two feet, to be cast into hell, [*where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED.*] If your eye causes you to stumble, throw it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than, having two eyes, to be cast into hell, *where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED.* For everyone will be salted with fire." —Mark 9 42-49 NASB

*"Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.* You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, "Teacher, we want to see a miraculous sign from you." He answered, *"A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here."* —Matthew 12:32-41 NASB

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and *the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove.* And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." —Luke 3:21-22 NASB