

A Study of the Prophets

OT Survey Lesson 106--Jonah

Introduction: Jonah is mentioned as prophesying during the reign of Jeroboam II (793-753 b.c.). During this time the cruel Assyrians had arisen to power in the ancient world. Perhaps Jonah himself recorded the history of his unwillingness to proclaim a message of repentance to them, the miraculous rescue from the great fish's belly, and the repentance of the Ninevites.

Lesson aim: To emphasize God's desire for the salvation of all people.

Jonah flees from God--Jon. 1:1-17

1. What was Jonah commanded by God to do? Why? (v. 1)
2. What did Jonah purpose to do? How did he plan to get there? (v. 3)
3. How did God stop Jonah from carrying out his plans? (v. 4)
4. How did the sailors come to know that Jonah was the guilty one among them? (v. 5-9)
5. What did Jonah suggest they do to him to avoid being destroyed in the storm? (v. 10-11) Did the sailors want to do this? (v. 12-14)
6. What was the reaction of the sailors when they saw that the sea was calmed? (v. 15-16)
7. What had the Lord prepared to swallow Jonah? How long was he there? (v. 17)

Jonah prays to God--Jon. 2:1-10

1. What did Jonah do as he neared death by drowning in the sea? (v. 1-7)
2. What did Jonah promise he would do upon his deliverance? (v. 8-9)

Jonah speaks for God--Jon. 3:1-10

1. What did God command Jonah to do? (v. 1-3)
2. What was Jonah's message (v. 4)
3. How did the people react to Jonah's message? (v. 5) The king? (v. 6-9)
4. When God saw the repentance of the Ninevites what did he do? (v. 10)

Jonah learns from God--Jon. 4:1-11

1. How did Jonah feel about God's relenting of the punishment upon Ninevah? (v. 1)
2. Why did Jonah say he had first disobeyed God? (v. 2) What did Jonah know God was like? (v. 2)
3. What did Jonah want to do? (v. 3) What did the Lord ask him? (v. 4)
4. Describe how God used the plant and the worm to teach Jonah a needed lesson (v. 6-8).
5. What did God say to correct Jonah's wrong attitude? (v. 10-11)