

Jonah 2

- 1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish,
- 2 saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.
- 3 For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me.
- 4 Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.'
- 5 The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head
- 6 at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God.
- 7 When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.
- 8 Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love.
- 9 But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!"
- 10 And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

James 3

- 1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.
- 2 For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.
- 3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well.
- 4 Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.
- 5 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!
- 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.
- 7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind,
- 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.
- 9 With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.
- 10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.
- 11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water?
- 12 Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Matthew 12

- Jesus said: **31** Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.
- 32** And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.
 - 33** "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit.
 - 34** You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.
 - 35** The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.
 - 36** I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak,
 - 37** for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."
 - 38** Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."

39 But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

40 For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

41 The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

42 The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.