

The Sign of Jonah

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 ${\mathcal W}$ elcome to Jesus Time where we spend time with Jesus in His time and culture.

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, "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 shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the whale, so will the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ The men of Nin'eveh will arise 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.

According to Matthew, Christ our Lord has just in fact preformed an undeniably Divine supernatural miracle of Jesus healing a demon possessed man unable to hear or speak. This having been witnessed personally & publicly by the Jerusalem Scribes and the local Capernaum Pharisee's.

The point being here is; Jesus gives to us His mercy within His healings while He never uses His abilities just to impress people. This being especially true before those who are mocking Him or worse those who are foolish enough to considered themselves to be His superior.

Remember the Scribes and Pharisee's had already declared this healing and all of Christ's healings to be of demonic influence. Notably because the Pharisee's themselves were incapable of healing.

So the Pharisee's were now seeking a religious sign something like manipulating GOD'S natural design. Jesus soon will calm the Galilean Sea supernaturally controlling weather and He will walk upon water. But now the Scrobes demand a sign like turning stone to bread just as satan had previously done.

Yes & more than that; the Pharisee's were actually attempting to bring Jesus Christ under their control. Get that?

These Jerusalem elite were to use a modern term felt entitled, as in qualified to be ordering Christ Jesus around. Their true meaning was: prove to <u>us</u> that you deserve to preach/teach. Then we (elite) shall see- meaning what and when and where we say that you then can do.

We lose this intentful implication within our English translations, the essence of the flavor that are self evident within the Greek & Latin of this discourse. As in they the Pharisee's say, & then He Jesus do. Sorry GOD does not work that "Way."

He Jesus say & then we do!

Now notice even in English we can feel Jesus was aggrieved when His tone turned more somber even calling this generation; the one alive in Jesus Time an adulterous meaning Spiritually unfaithful to Heavenly Father, as in when time and again Christ our Lord informs these pious religious elite that they may know every dot & tittle of GOD'S Law, but they do not practice it's meaning it's true intent.

To say the Pharisee's would twist or bend while even turning their heads and squint with one eye to deny GOD'S Law as it was meant to be given would be an utmost extreme understatement.

Now as for Jonah being a sign of Jesus this being as Christ's proof:

Almost everyone who has ever attended Sunday Scholl has heard the story of Jonah & the Whale.

If you recall; Jonah was a legitimate Israeli Jewish Prophet for Jehovah our GOD during the Old Testament times in 824 BC. In which Israel was being threatened by the rising Godless evil antichrist kingdom prototype of Assyria with it's infamous 3 cities in particular Nineveh located today where we do call Northern Iraq.

Nineveh was the city Jonah was tasked by Holy GOD to inform that their destruction of Judgement draws neigh for all of their Sins within.

As we know Jonah was not only reluctant to warn the Assyrians because he wanted Nineveh to be smote by GOD for all of it's profound darkness, Nineveh was also known for enjoying sadistic brutalities. So in fact Jonah ran in the opposite direction thusly disobeying Heavenly Father by leaving Israel by sea sailing west in the opposite direction.

This dear reading friend is how foolish we can all be as for GOD'S instructions and Will for our lives. Because even an actual Old Testament Prophet one who had tasted and delivered personally the power of GOD to others in Israel was actually stubborn enough to try and run away from GOD when he personally disagreed with Him.

This proves each our choice of freewill and of our reluctant pride.

Anyways, you know the rest Scripture records the sailing vessel encountered an unnatural storm in which even the regular non Jewish sailing men aboard did suspect that GOD Almighty was angry with someone.

When Jonah confessed it was him running from the mission GOD had assigned to him the sailors quickly threw Jonah overboard into the sea.

Saving themselves because the storm abated instantly.

However the same could not be said for Jonah.

He was swallowed alive by a whale & for three days & three nights Jonah was in the Whales belly.

OK now we can hit some controversy head on!

There has never been a Biblical narrative more doubted and mocked than Jonah & the Whale. Tis a shame because all you have to do today is "Google" surviving being swallowed by a whale.

Yes, the internet is replete with confirmed news accounts of not only people for example: Physical Therapist Julie McSorley 58 swallowed up while Kayaking in November of 2020, or Lobster Diver Michael Packard 56 also swallowed alive in June of 21.

(Just 2 of the more recent of the many documented cases)

Further even animals including a small wild horse and even a domesticated dog each having been recovered alive from inside captured whales by Japanese whale hunters. Photos prove it.

It seems whales will open their mouths very wide to gulp in vast amounts of sea water carrying shrimp and other sea food. When the whale does this their mouths actually are wider than their filed of vision ahead meaning it is a rarity but whales have been known to mistakenly swallow the wrong prey. Now how we & other mammals survive alive inside a whale is this:

Yes, a whales stomach acid is present but it is not as potent as ours as in all land based life are. Meaning for softer seafood and sea plant life the whales stomach acid is fine. But we do sour their stomach! Ultimately regurgitation becomes very necessary for the Whale.

Oh Whales are also famous for surfacing and pulling in vast amounts of air making breathing possible for someone or something trapped inside alive.

So now you know it is possible and has been done by many people and even land based animals to survive alive from being swallowed by a whale.

Now what yet remains unsaid here is this:

The Whales stomach acid may not be lethal to a human being but it is still a semi mild acid none the less. The two animals previously mentioned the small horse and dog were lucky in the fact that the Whales they were each inside were captured and when the land mammals were set free having been inside for an undetermined longer period of time, they were each now what we today would call an Albino.

As in the Whales stomach acid might not have been strong enough to digest them. However it was potent enough to bleach them snow white while removing every trace of hair on their bodies.

Get that?

Meaning Jonah a known true GODLY Prophet of Israel now appeared in Nineveh as an Albino! Having been chastised by GOD after Jonah Prayed for forgiveness and a second chance, the Whale ultimately spit him out & then Jonah went to warn Nineveh as GOD had instructed him to do.

When Jonah again a known true Prophet of GOD gave his waring including his personal story of "you know I really do not like you people I truly wish GOD would destroy you but yet I'm here because look at me a true prophet of Israel & yet I got swallowed by a Whale for not warning you."

In fact this be Why? Scripture also records Jonah then hid under a large plant from the sunlight. He had to because he was now an Albino in a hot sun baked desert!

Now Jonah finally broke down and complained to GOD, "you see! I knew these evil people would repent and be saved!! I wanted them all to die!!!" (Jonah chapter4)

So then GOD took away the plant shade Jonah was hiding under and then Jonah really lost it.

GOD then informed Jonah that he might not like it, but over 120,000 people with their animals were saved by Jonah's obedience and example of suffering.

GOD knew exactly what was going to happen with Jonah!

That Jonah was known to Nineveh as a Prophet and they understood if he suffered for not being obedient to GOD then Jonah's Words are true that we to must repent or face GOD'S Judgement.

Nineveh did repent and was spared by GOD for over another 100 years additional.

Like Jonah Jesus Christ spent 3 days and nights in death.

Having first suffered for our Sins while not being spared by His Heavenly Father so in turn this means that we to must obey and heed Christ's warnings of repentance and Faith by His Grace alone redeeming us to GOD thusly Saving us.