

June 27, 2010



Story of Jonah in two parts Jonah page 644

beginning of explanation vs 1
The word of the Lord came to Jonah

:: JONAH WAS NOT PARTICULARLY SUITED FOR THE TASK ::

verse 3
Jonah left for Joppa to sail for Tarshish – opposite direction of Nineveh

:: YOU CAN RUN BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM GOD ::

verse 6
Sailors struggled against the God powered storm – but could not

:: THE SWEET SLUMBER OF AVOIDANCE IS GOOD FOR ANY
STORM ::

verse 8 Who are you? What do you do,
verse 10 What have you done?
They knew he was running away from the Lord



Jonah : OCCUPATION: I run from God

verse 13 -16
Sailors struggled against the God powered storm – but could not

:: YOU, O LORD, HAVE DONE AS YOU PLEASED ::

verse 16
... and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to Him.

Polytheism: belief in many Gods

Syncretism: the combination or fusion of different forms of belief or practice

:: I'M NOT A POLYTHEIST BUT I MIGHT BE A TOUCH
SYNCRETISTIC ::

verse 17
But the Lord provided a great fish to swallow Jonah. RELIEF!?!

:: THE BELLY OF GOD'S WHALE CAN BE A DESIRABLE
ALTERNATIVE ::

from Pastor Bills Life Journal _____

... The second thought that strikes me is how the sailor's hard choice was specifically designed by God to bring Jonah back into alignment with His plans and desires. God beat them into submission (using the raging sea – WOW!) to bring deliverance to the ship, the sailors, Jonah and ultimately Nineveh. I am absolutely certain that not one of them were aware of the great deliverance at hand as they hoisted Jonah over the ship's bulwark and tossed him over the rail. Their 'nothing left to do but' action was exactly God's next step in the plan. Amazing!

LORD, help me to see your plans in the storm. Save me from my own gutlessness and make me wise and strong in you. Experience alone is never enough, rather revelation from God alone must direct me through this storm. Your terrifying, storm driven, rain soaked and wind whipped plans are good and holy. My prayer remains that in the storm or in the quiet I remain constant and at peace with YOU. AMEN!

**You are faithful when I am not and remain faithful
in storms and whale belly's**