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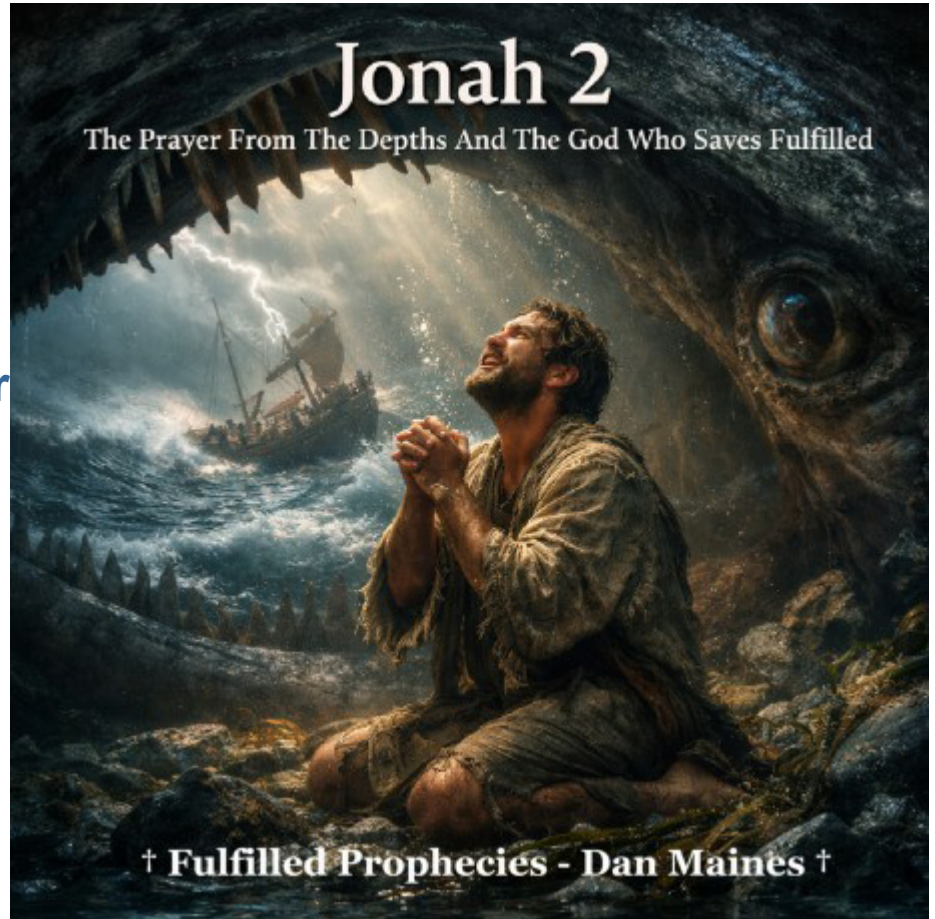
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Jonah 2 The Prayer From The Depths And The God Who Saves Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

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Introduction

† Jonah 2 shows us a man who ran from God, now brought to the lowest place imaginable, crying out from inside the fish.

† This isn't just about Jonah, it's about Israel, and ultimately about all who try to flee from God's calling.

† From the fulfilled perspective, this chapter points forward to Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, and the deliverance that

came before the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70.

Jonah 2:1

Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the stomach of the fish,

† Jonah didn't pray when he was running, he prayed when he was broken, that shows God uses pressure to bring repentance. (Psalm 119:67)

† The phrase his God shows covenant relationship wasn't lost, even in rebellion, God still claimed him. (Hosea 2:23)

† This mirrors Israel, who often only turned back to God when under judgment. (Judges 10:10)

Jonah 2:2

and he said, I called out of my distress to the LORD, And He answered me. I cried for help from the depth of Sheol, You heard my voice.

† Jonah describes his situation as Sheol, the realm of the dead, showing he saw this as a death experience. (Psalm 18:5)

† This directly points to Christ, who entered death and was heard by the Father. (Acts 2:24)

† God hearing him shows covenant faithfulness, even when Jonah failed. (Psalm 34:17)

Jonah 2:3

For You had cast me into the deep, Into the heart of the seas, And the current engulfed me. All Your breakers and billows passed over me.

† Jonah recognizes God was behind the storm, not just circumstances, God was disciplining him. (Hebrews 12:6)

† The language echoes judgment imagery used against Israel.

(Psalm 42:7)

† This also foreshadows Christ bearing the waves of judgment on behalf of His people. (Isaiah 53:4)

Jonah 2:4

So I said, I have been expelled from Your sight. Nevertheless I will look again toward Your holy temple.

† Jonah felt cut off, just like Israel in exile, yet he still looked toward the temple, showing hope in restoration. (1 Kings 8:38-39)

† This points forward to Christ as the true temple, where access to God is restored. (John 2:19-21)

† Even in judgment, faith remained, that's the turning point. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Jonah 2:5

Water encompassed me to the point of death. The great deep engulfed me, Weeds were wrapped around my head.

† This is burial language, Jonah is describing being as good as dead. (Psalm 69:1-2)

† The weeds wrapping his head shows complete entrapment, no human escape. (Job 7:12)

† This parallels Christ in the grave, fully given over to death. (Matthew 12:40)

Jonah 2:6

I descended to the roots of the mountains. The earth with its bars was around me forever, But You have brought up my life from the pit, LORD my God.

† The bars of the earth picture imprisonment in death, total confinement. (Psalm 107:10)

† Yet God brought him up, showing resurrection power. (Psalm 30:3)

† This is a direct type of Christ rising from the grave. (Acts 2:31)

Jonah 2:7

While I was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, And my prayer came to You, Into Your holy temple.

† At the lowest point, Jonah remembered God, showing repentance begins with turning back mentally and spiritually. (Luke 15:17)

† Prayer reaching the temple shows God hears even from the depths. (Psalm 102:19-20)

† This reinforces that distance doesn't block access, rebellion does, but repentance restores it. (Isaiah 59:1-2)

Jonah 2:8

Those who are followers of worthless idols Turn away from their faithfulness,

† Jonah contrasts himself with idolaters, though he had acted like one by fleeing. (Jeremiah 2:13)

† Idolatry always leads to abandoning God's mercy. (Psalm 31:6)

† Israel's history proves this over and over. (2 Kings 17:15)

Jonah 2:9

But as for me, I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving. That which I have vowed I will pay. Salvation is from the LORD.

† Jonah commits to obedience, showing true repentance produces action. (Ecclesiastes 5:4)

† Salvation is from the LORD is the central truth of the entire

book. (Isaiah 43:11)

† This ultimately points to Christ, through whom salvation was fulfilled. (Luke 2:30)

Jonah 2:10

Then the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah up onto the dry land.

† God controls creation, even the fish obeys Him. (Psalm 148:7-8)

† Jonah's deliverance is a resurrection picture, coming out of death to life. (Romans 6:4)

† This is exactly what Jesus pointed to as the sign of Jonah. (Matthew 12:40)

Historical References

† Josephus records how Jonah's ministry was known among the prophets of Israel, showing his historical reality. (Antiquities 9.10.2)

† Justin Martyr connected Jonah's three days to Christ's resurrection as a fulfilled sign. (Dialogue with Trypho 107)

† Tertullian affirmed Jonah as a type of Christ's burial and rising. (On the Resurrection of the Flesh 58)

How it applies to us today

† We can't run from God, He'll pursue us until we turn back. (Psalm 139:7-10)

† God uses hardship to bring us to repentance, not to destroy us. (Hebrews 12:10-11)

† Even when we've failed, we still have access to Him when we turn back. (1 John 1:9)

† Salvation has always been from the LORD, not from us. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

† Just like Jonah, we've been brought from death to life through

Christ's fulfilled work. (Colossians 2:12)

Q & A Appendix

Q: Was Jonah actually dead in the fish?

A: He describes it as Sheol and death, which points to a death-like state and typology fulfilled in Christ. (Jonah 2:2, Matthew 12:40)

Q: Why did God use a fish?

A: To demonstrate His total control over creation and to create a prophetic sign of resurrection. (Jonah 1:17, Psalm 104:25)

Q: What does this have to do with Jesus?

A: Jesus said Jonah was a sign of His death and resurrection. (Matthew 12:40)

Q: Was Jonah truly repentant?

A: Yes, his prayer and later obedience show a real turning back to God. (Jonah 2:9, Jonah 3:3)

Q: How does this connect to fulfillment?

A: The pattern of death and deliverance was fulfilled in Christ, bringing full salvation before AD 70. (Luke 24:46-47)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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† Jonah 2

† Josephus Antiquities 9.10.2, Justin Martyr Dialogue with Trypho 107, Tertullian On the Resurrection of the Flesh 58

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