

A Greater Than Jonah Is Here

Matt. 12:38-41

I. *A Greater Than Jonah Is Here*

- Jonah was from Gath-hepher in Galilee. (II Kings 14:25)
 - **Jesus was from Nazareth in Galilee.** (Matt. 2:22-23; Acts 2:22)

- Jonah was sent by God on a mission to the lost. (Jonah 1:2; 4:1-2)
 - **Jesus was sent on a mission to the lost.** (Jn. 4:34; Lk. 19:10)

- Jonah slept in a boat during a storm. (Jonah 1:5)
 - **Jesus asleep on a boat during a storm.** (Mk. 4:35-39)

- Jonah told them how to calm the sea. (Jonah 1:12)
 - **Jesus calmed the sea.** (Mk. 4:39)

- Jonah was willing to sacrifice himself for others. (Jonah 1:12)
 - **Jesus in the eternal plan of God sacrificed himself for the world.** (Gen. 3:15; I Pet. 1:18-20; Jn. 10:17; Jn. 3:16) For sinners. (Rom. 5:6-8)

- In Jonah's case, a prayer for forgiveness by those who sacrificed him. (Jonah 1:14)
 - **Jesus prayed for the forgiveness of those who crucified him.** (Lk. 23:34)

- Jonah, a prophet, proclaimed a message of repentance. (Jonah 3:4; 8-10)
 - **Jesus, Prophet, Priest and King proclaimed a message of repentance.** (Matt. 4:17; Lk. 13:3; 24:47)

- Jonah knew that God is gracious, merciful and kind. (Jonah 4:2)
 - **Jesus manifested the grace, mercy and kindness of God.** (Jn. 1:17; Matt. 9:26; Jn. 14:9)

- Jonah was the only minor prophet in whose life miracles played a prominent role.
 - **Jesus life and claims were attested to by miracles.** (Acts 2:22)

II. The Sign:

- Jonah in the belly of the fish was a sign to the Ninevites. (Lk. 11:29-30)
- **The resurrection of Jesus was the ultimate sign...**
 - Proof of His Deity and the claims he made (Rom. 1:3-4)
 - Provided victory over the devil. (Heb. 2:14-15)
 - Provides assurance that we too will be raised from the dead. (I Cor. 15:23)
 - Provides for us, along with his sacrificial death, justification. (Rom. 4:25)
 - Provides the hope of eternal life. (I Pet. 1:3-5)