



Brazil 2026 — Brasil 2026



Teaching at the Seminário Teológico Batista Independente do Sul (STBISUL)

- Introduction to the Old Testament 2 (Introdução ao Antigo Testamento 2), which covers the Psalms, Wisdom Literature, and some of the Minor Prophets.



The Book of Jonah

Unique among the prophetic books...

- A story about a disobedient prophet
- told with wonderful style and artful literary skill
- that reveals the heart of God and his relentless grace for all.

The Prophet Jonah

Jonah son of Amittai

- Northerner — From Gath-Hepher (2 Kings 14:25) and ministered during the reign of Jeroboam II (786–46 BC).
- Nationalistic — Preached the expansion of Northern Israel during a time of unprecedented prosperity (contrast Amos & Hosea).
- Narrow-Minded — forgot God's purposes to bless the all the families of the earth (Genesis 12:1-3).

The Book of Jonah

Jonah's First Call to the Great City & Disobedience (1:1-3)

A. Jonah, the Sailors, and the Great Fish (1:4-17)

B. Jonah's Oblivious Prayer from the Great Fish (2:1-10)

A.' Jonah's Second Call & his (Reluctant) Obedience (3:1-10)

B.' Jonah's Perspective on God's Grace (4:1-11)

Nineveh's Repentance & God's Grace

A.' Jonah's Second Call & his (Reluctant) Obedience (3:1-10)

- Jonah's Successful (5-Word) Sermon (3:4).
- The People's Complete Repentance (3:5-9).
- God's Amazing Grace & Forgiveness (3:10).

Jonah's Response to God's Grace

B.' Jonah's Perspective on God's Grace (4:1-11)

- "But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry"; lit. "This was a great evil to Jonah and he burned with anger" (4:1).
- The root of Jonah's anger is his knowledge of God's very character (4:2; cf. Exodus 20:5-6, 34:6-7).
- Jonah is so upset by God's grace, he asks to die (4:3).

God's Questions

God's First Question: "But Yahweh replied, 'Is it right for you to be angry?'" (4:4).

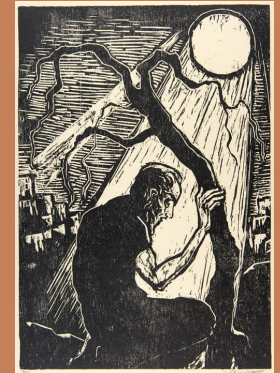
- Obvious answer is "no", but Jonah never responds...
- God then provides an object lesson of a plant (4:5-8).

God's Second Question: "But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?'" (4:9).

Jonah's Response

Jonah's Reply:

- "It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead."



God's Response

But Yahweh said, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight..."

And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?" (4:10-11)

God's Concern

Reminds us that God is concerned with all of creation.

- God's purposes are ultimately to bless "all the families of the earth" (Genesis 12).
- In Christ, our love extends to even our enemies (Matthew 5:44).
- God's willingness to await repentance and to delay judgement (2Peter 3:9; Romans 11:25-26).

Jonah's Attitude

Jonah's concerns vs. God's concerns

Theological racism: Grace for me — Judgement for others

- Universality of the image of God in humanity (Genesis 1:26-27).
- Usurping God's prerogative and sovereignty in regards to judgement and forgiveness (Matthew 7:1-5; 18:21-22).
- Receiving God's grace without being changed by it.

Our Attitude

But Yahweh said, "And should I not have concern for _____?"

God's concerns should be our concerns!

Our Attitude

"A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones"

— Nelson Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom*, 276.



Our Response

What are we concerned about?

Are we willing to be sent?

God's open invitation...

Our Response

The Lord's Table

- A time of remembering...
- A time of reflection...



Our Response

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1Corinthians 11:23-26).

Our Response

Let's remember together
united *as one body*...

