

Jonah 4

Chapter 4 of 4 · 11 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Jonah's Anger at the Lord's Mercy

¹ But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

² And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

³ Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

⁴ Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry?

The Lord's Lesson

⁵ So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

⁶ And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

⁷ But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.

⁸ And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

⁹ And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

¹⁰ Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

¹¹ And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Repent — שׁוּב / נָחַם (Shuv / Nacham)

To turn back, relent

The Hebrew **shuv** (שׁוּב) means to turn or return—a physical turning that represents spiritual redirection back to God. **Nacham** (נָחַם) conveys grief or relenting, often used of God 'repenting' of judgment.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

CROSS REFERENCES

Jonah 4:1 **Parallel theme:** Jonah 4:4; 4:9; Matthew 20:15; Luke 15:28

Jonah 4:2 **Grace:** Psalms 86:5; 86:15; 145:8; Micah 7:18. **Repentance:** Jonah 3:10; Exodus 32:14; Jeremiah 18:8; Amos 7:3. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 78:38. **References Lord:** Jonah 1:3

Jonah 4:3 **References Lord:** Numbers 20:3; 1 Kings 19:4. **Parallel theme:** Jonah 4:8; Numbers 11:15; Ecclesiastes 7:1; 1 Corinthians 9:15

Jonah 4:4 **Parallel theme:** Jonah 4:9; Micah 6:3; Matthew 20:15

Jonah 4:5 **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 19:9; 19:13

Jonah 4:7 **Parallel theme:** Job 1:21; Psalms 102:10; Joel 1:12

Jonah 4:8 **Parallel theme:** Jonah 4:3; Psalms 121:6; Isaiah 49:10; Ezekiel 19:12; Revelation 3:19

Jonah 4:11 **Parallel theme:** Jonah 1:2; Deuteronomy 1:39; Psalms 36:6; 104:14; Isaiah 1:18; Matthew 18:33

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