



A Closer Look at Jonah

But it greatly displeased Jonah and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, "Please Lord, was not this what I said while I was still in my own country? Therefore in order to forestall this I fled to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity.

JONAH 4:1-10 (NASB)



³ Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for death is better to me than life." ⁴ The Lord said, "Do you have good reason to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out from the city and sat east of it. There he made a shelter for himself and sat under it in the shade until he could see what would happen in the city. ⁶ So the Lord God appointed a plant and it grew up over Jonah to be a shade over his head to deliver him from his discomfort. And Jonah was extremely happy about the plant.



⁷ But God appointed a worm when dawn came the next day and it attacked the plant and it withered. ⁸ When the sun came up God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he became faint and begged with all his soul to die, saying, "Death is better to me than life." ⁹ Then God said to Jonah, "Do you have good reason to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "I have good reason to be angry, even to death."



¹⁰ Then the Lord said, "You had compassion on the plant for which you did not work and which you did not cause to grow, which came up overnight and perished overnight. ¹¹ Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?"



CLIFF HANGERS

in relation to
Jonah

in relation to
Nineveh

"Should I not have
compassion on
Nineveh...?"

JONAH 4:11



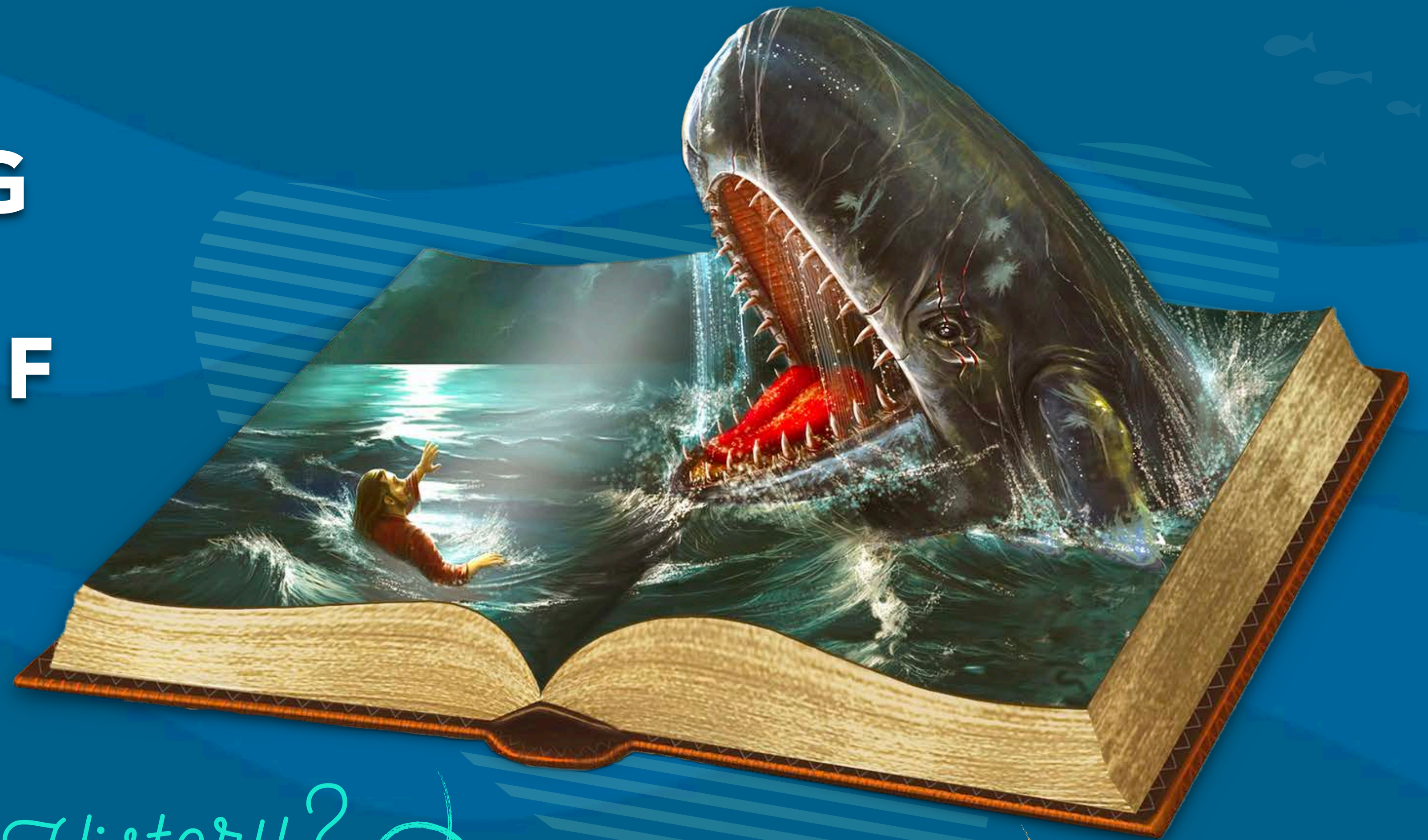
There is no relief for your breakdown,
Your wound is incurable.
All who hear about you
Will clap their hands over you,
For on whom has not your evil
passed continually?

NAHUM 3:19 (NASB)



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PLACING THE BOOK OF JONAH

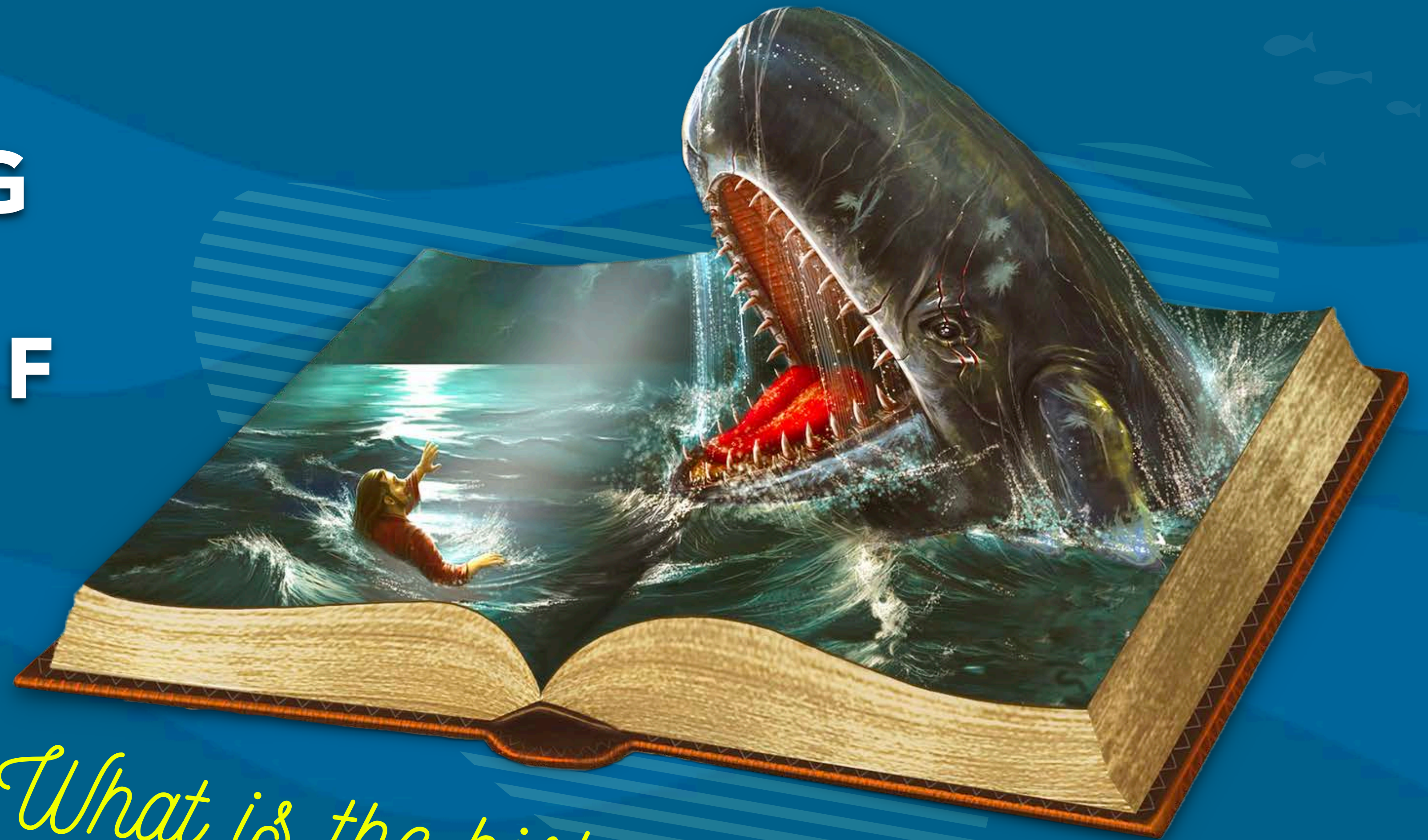


History?

Allegory?



PLACING THE BOOK OF JONAH



What is the historical context?



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PLACING THE BOOK OF JONAH

What is the historical context?

1

Nineveh and the Assyrians.

2

Nahum was possibly dated after Jonah.



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WHERE IS THE PROPHECY IN THE BOOK OF JONAH?

One line prophecy against Nineveh.

"Yet forty days and Nineveh will
be overthrown."

JONAH 3:4 (NASB)

A prophecy within a prophecy?

What is the central message?



WHY WAS JONAH UNHAPPY WITH GOD?

1

Tribalism

2

Hardened heart

3

Self-righteousness



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Those who regard vain idols
Forsake their faithfulness...

JONAH 2:8 (NASB)



WHY WAS JONAH UNHAPPY WITH GOD?

- 1 Tribalism
- 2 Hardened heart
- 3 Self-righteousness
- 4 Thinks he knows better than God.
- 5 Believes that God gives him the short end of the stick.



He prayed to the Lord and said, "Please Lord, was not this what I said while I was still in my own country? Therefore in order to forestall this I fled to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity.

JONAH 4:2 (NASB)



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WHAT WOULD HAVE HELPED JONAH OVERCOME THE UNHAPPINESS?

- 1 Understanding God's patience to Jonah's enemies?
- 2 Seeing God's kindness to the sailors?
- 3 Being saved from the belly of the fish?
- 4 God chasing after him?



OR?

