

Jonah the run away prophet a fascinating story by Rabbi Simon Altaf

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AFNHSS – All quotes from the Abrahamic-Faith Nazarene Hebraic Study Scriptures

Yahushua – The Real name of the Messiah

YHWH – The real name for the creator

Part 2

The Big fish

Yonah 1:17 Now אִיָּאֵל had prepared a great fish to swallow up Yonah. And Yonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Unbeknownst to Jonah YHWH had prepared a big fish to swallow Jonah. So when he was released in the water a big male fish comes along and swallows him up. Now here comes the crunch and what you are not usually told. Is as follows I must also warn you that here scholars hold two views and I am of the opinion of the latter view. One holds that Jonah was alive in the fish and came out alive. Another view holds that Jonah died and was raised then spit out of the mouth of the fish. The evidence I will present will help you to decide. Whichever view you adopt it matters not about your eternal fate but this is just to help you see the working of YHWH.

The events described in chapter 1 happened over several hours and not minutes so Jonah's death seems likely and plausible by drowning because he was in the water being lowered and raised by the rope continuously and then eventually released when he fell into the water he was exhausted and then later swallowed by the fish. Now did he die in the belly of the fish or outside? Looking at the prophecy of the Messiah Yahushua for answers tells us he died outside the fish but which fish? Let us continue.

Let us examine the verse.

Yonah 2:2 And said, I cried by reason of my affliction to אִיָּאֵל, and he heard me; out of the belly of She'ol cried I, and you heard my voice.

When do you enter She'ol? If he died while inside or outside the belly of the fish then he would enter She'ol the place of the dead.

The only time anyone can enter She'ol is when his or her soul and spirit departs from this earth. We cannot enter She'ol while alive unless Ha'Shem specially takes us there by vision or dream. Jonah was not having a vision and there is no indication of such.

Yahushua the Messiah declared the following;

Matthew 12:40 For as Yonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the huge fish; so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

If those of you hold to the position that Jonah did not die that is fine but then you will have to answer the following. Did Yahushua die or not? Was He alive when He went into the Tomb? If Jonah was alive in the belly of the fish then one can argue so was Yahushua in the belly of the earth. The Messiah would not give a prophecy in which

he used an example a Type that was not really a Type. According to the Messiah Jonah was dead because He too died and was raised three days later. Note the Messiah also entered She'ol after His death

Rabbi Paulos said that the Messiah descended into the abyss or the place of the dead in Roman 10:7.

Rom 10:7 Or, Who shall descend into the abyss? That is, to bring up Messiah again from the dead.

Rabbi Paulos declares that the Messiah not only died but also descended into She'ol.

Eph 4:9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?)

The Messiah descended into She'ol after His death and then after three days ascended. What He did in She'ol is debated and disputed so we shall not go into the details as they are unnecessary for our narrative. What is necessary is for Jonah to be in She'ol. If we take the position that he was only unconscious then he must be dreaming in the belly of the fish of being in She'ol or he was really dead. Let's examine this further.

Let us assume the death theory a little further to see if we can ratify it.

Yonah 2:3 For you have cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods surrounded me about: all your billows and your waves passed over me.

The Hebrew word for deep is Strong's H4688 Metsolaw. It has the following meanings:

A *deep* place, bottom, deep, depth.

We always look to the first occurrence of any Hebrew word to get to it's correct meaning.

Exodus 15:5 The depths have covered them: they sank to the bottom [metsolaw] like a stone.

The word can be used in conjunction with water or sea poetically but this does not tell us whether Jonah was dead or alive in the belly of the Fish so we continue to investigate.

Yonah 2:5 The waters surrounded me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head.

Can weeds be wrapped around the head of a living man? I guess yes if you are unconscious. So we are still no way clearer about his death.

Yonah 2:6 I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me **forever**: yet have you brought up my life from corruption, O אלהים my Elohim.

The only time one is in She'ol is upon one's death and forever here means

until you will be raised from the dead that is if you will be worthy to be judged or just thrown in to the lake of fire. This verse is pretty clear to tell us Jonah was dead. It tells us that his body did not see corruption while dead and was not digested by the fish's digestive system while the Messiah's body did not see corruption either. The Types match. This is our key verse apart from the verse in Yonah 2:2.

We could still argue that Jonah did not die and was alive but the problem with that view is that it contradicts the Hebrew here and prophetic nature of what Messiah was declaring to us about His death when he spoke about this prophecy seven hundred years later. Also what was the miracle in Jonah' life? His death and resurrection, and not necessarily the swallowing and spitting out of the fish though that would count as a miracle but the thrust of Yahushua telling us this is to do with His impending death that He mentioned in Matthew 12:40-41 and His own resurrection. Yahushua's story telling would have no point if it was simply retelling a fish swallowing Jonah and throwing Him out. One has to ask what relevance has that to Yahushua? Is He saying the Romans are like the big fish and He is like Jonah to be swallowed up by them and later the Romans will release him which makes no sense whatsoever.

Did you know that using Jonah's prophecy and faulty modern Christian interpretation Ahmad Deedat concluded that the Messiah never died and was only unconscious until taken down and revived. He used Jonah's prophecy and the Christian viewpoint of Jonah not dying to declare that since Jonah did not die neither could the Messiah since the Messiah gave that prophecy based on Jonah. Yet most of Christianity that believes this is still mistaken and if we apply Ahmad Deedat's analysis using modern Christian interpretations of this verse then we too also come apart as Deedat but hold your thoughts and let's examine something that is little known.

Remember I told you earlier that Jonah was swallowed by a male fish so if he was swallowed by a daddy fish then where is mummy fish? If there is daddy fish in the water then mummy fish cannot be far behind. Let's examine this truth. Jonah was swallowed by two fishes not just one. First the daddy fish then the mummy fish. The first occurrence of the word for the fish swallowing Jonah is masculine but at the point the fish throws him out of her mouth it has changed to feminine. Let us examine this hidden gem.

Yonah 2:1 Then Yonah prayed to אֱלֹהֵיָּ his Elohim out of the fish's belly,

Will the real fish please stand up because we are looking for Jonah?

Jon 2:1 יִתְפַּלֵּל יוֹנָה אֱלֹהֵיהוּהָ אֱלֹהֵיוּ מִמְעֵי הַדָּגָהּ:

Yonah Al YHWH Elohim Myaw Hdagah.

Dag normally means a male fish and dagah which is used in Yonah 2:1 only ever means a female fish.

From the Hebrew we can tell that initially Jonah was swallowed by the male fish and the same day he was vomited out by the first fish and swallowed by the second female fish so he spent three days and 3 nights in the belly of the female fish. This is again testimony that after being swallowed by the two fishes Jonah was dead and YHWH revived Jonah from the dead just as the Messiah would be raised from the dead. Those who believe Jonah was alive would struggle at this point because you cannot be in the water for several hours and be swinging between fishes like a ping pong ball in the deep and be still alive unless you want to believe that he was

wearing an oxygen mask. For the convenience of some he may as well be but he still would be dead I assure you.

What do the two fishes teach us? They teach us the idea of the two graves that the Messiah could have gone to, one of the wicked (Isa 53:9) in the valley of Hinnom and one of the righteous where he was buried on the Mount of Olives in Yosef of Arimathaea's purchased tomb which Yahushua inherited. See Beyth Yahushua, the Son of Tzadok, the Son of Dawud for his relationship with Yosef in www.abrahamic-faith.com.

Later Jonah goes to Nineveh to preach to what appears to be gentiles but are they? We see in like manner after the Messiah's resurrection He strictly commanded His disciples to not go to the gentiles but go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (Matt 10:5-6, 15:24). This indicates to us that Jonah was likely preaching to the lost sheep of the House of Israel (The Ten tribes) also because many Israelites lived there after their captivity.

So one can easily see that Jonah was a type of Messiah to the Ninevites who were a mixture of Israelites. The city of Nineveh was burned down by the Babylonians in 612 BC which was the capital of the Assyrian Empire. This reveals to us that if the gentiles or mixture of Israelites and gentiles do not accept the message of the Messiah then a day of burning will come. In fact we are now very close to that day.

The Assyrians had taken the ten northern tribes captive in 722-724 BC. Therefore, one hundred years before it's destruction Jonah was sent to the city and what appeared to be gentiles were in fact many members of the tribes of Israel from the Northern sector of Israel. These indeed did repent. Later the city again fell into idolatry and was punished by Elohim with destruction and also for righteous judgment for torturing and debasing Hebrew Israelites that they took away as slaves in 722 BC;

Likewise unless we repent and obey His Torah many of us will face destruction. It is up to us to understand the message loud and clear and if we fail to heed the call of the Torah obedient servants of the Most High we will too likewise end up as the Ninevites so what should be our action after reading this if not already so? If you know the Messiah and love Him then start obeying the Torah of Moses. Start by doing the weekly 7th day Sabbath and followed by the seven annual feasts such as Passover, Pentecost, Yom Kippur etc.

You need to learn how to obey the commandments and You need to circumcise if you are a male after one year if you are older and you have enough grasp of the faith in order to keep the Passover feast completely while in exile. Note circumcision is part of the everlasting Covenant given to Abraham (Gen 17:7-10). If you claim to have the Abrahamic Covenant you must be circumcised no excuse. Being in Messiah does not preclude you and neither do misinterpreting the letter of Rav Sha'ul. Note Rav Sha'ul or Paulos's halacha is non-binding but the Torah is binding for an everlasting period. Learn what these things mean from good teachers like myself.

Remove unclean meats from your diet to start on the clean meats such as lamb, beef and chicken. No pork chops no lobsters and certainly no shrimps. Make a habit of living a clean and righteous life then you and your life will go in the kingdom of Yah. Serve our Master with fear and trembling that you may receive your right reward and be a good example to your family and the people around you.

YHWH bless you

Shalom B'Shem Yahushua

Rabbi Simon Altaf

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Snail mail address: BM Abrahamic-Faith, London, WC1X 3NN, England (UK). Simon Altaf was chosen by God for the special End-Times prophetic calling. A lone voice in the wilderness, one taught by God (Ps 119:120-121), a Messianic Rabbi and writer. He from the tribe of Levi, the original Semites called out of Islam to rejoin His people after his long exile.

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What caused Rabbi Paulos to persecute perfectly normal Jewish men and women who simply practiced Judaism? Who was

Nicodemus, what relationship did Yahushua have with Lazarus? Did Yahushua have relatives? For too long He has been portrayed as the wandering man with no belongings and no family and living wildly, picking up food from the trees, fields and women offering him handouts.

This picture is both misleading and deceptive. Do you want to know the powerful family of Yahushua, fill the gaps, who were Mark, Luke, Matthew and even John? What connection has Joseph of Arimathaea got with Yahushua and why would a rich man like him be willing to give his own expensive tomb for Yahushua's burial?

Do rich men do such things, if so then why was the rich man in Matthew 19:21 unwilling to give away all his money? Did Yahushua carry the curse of Jeconiah (Jer 22:24-30)? The answer that Christendom gives is the curse lifted because of the virgin birth or the lineage switch. Did it? Answer NO. Christendom's answers on this are wrong. What about the genealogy of Luke and Matthew why two fathers of Yahushua Heli or Jacob in Matthew 1:16 and Luke 3:23? Will the real father of Yahushua please stand up!

Who were the Hebrews, what is the West in Hosea 11:10?

Hos 11:10 (KJV)...then the children shall tremble from the west.

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- Who were Abraham's ancestors?
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- Where is Noah's ark likely to be Not Ararat in Turkey?

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Which ex-Muslim do you know who dares gives his telephone number out? YHWH walks ahead of Rabbi Simon this is the sign of a true calling unlike others who are only brave behind a keyboard and offer rhetoric hiding behind body guards but where is the substance. Rabbi Simon refuses to walk with bodyguards.

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