# AMAZING GRACE

# The Grace of God's Forgiveness (Jonah 1:17-2:10)

# One Way to Look at Jonah 1-2

Chapter 1

#### "Don't be like Jonah."

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Chapter 1

"Don't be like Jonah."

**Chapter 2** 

"If you sin like Jonah, do what Jonah did."



# God's will forgive our sins when we confess our sins.

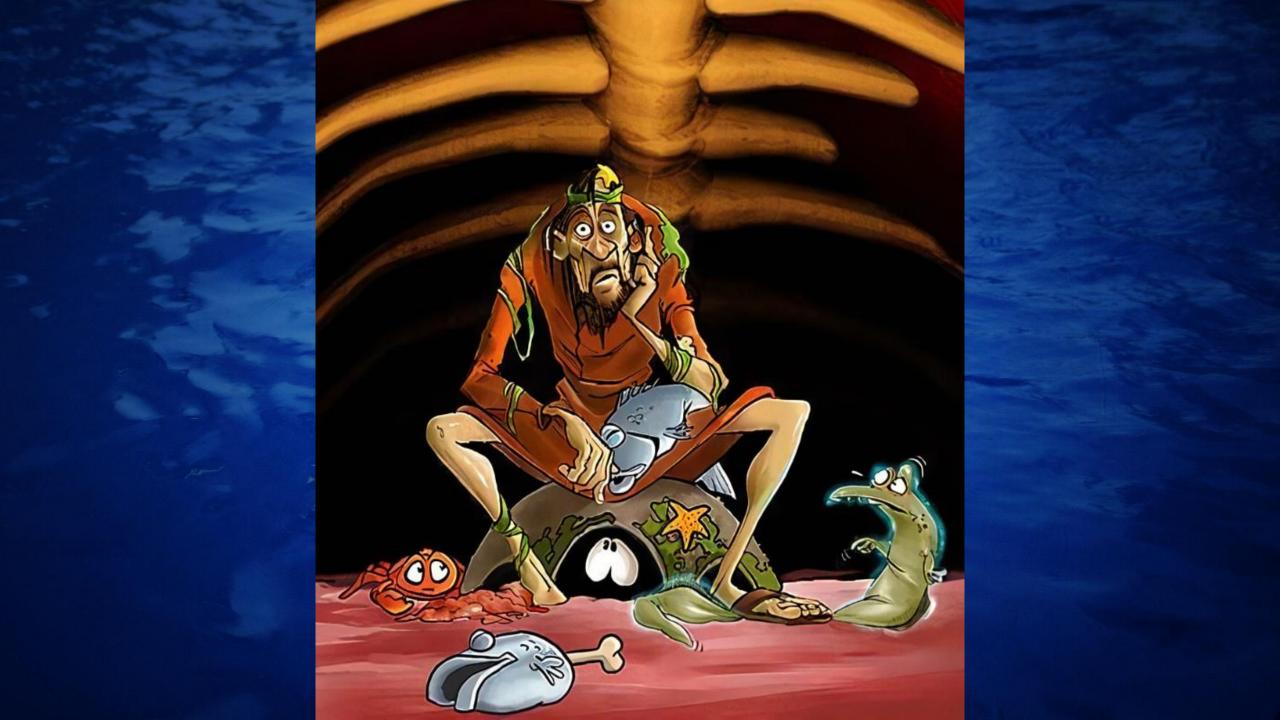
Sperm whale

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#### Corinthians 2:1-5

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.



### Stages to God's Forgiveness for Jonah

1. Jonah's Distress (vs. 1-6a)

"One would think it hard to make the belly of hell the gate of heaven, but Jonah did so. He prays, and one of the surest evidences of a living faith is prayer. Prayer is thy vital breath, thy native air. ..."



Charles Spurgeon, from a sermon titled "Jonah's Resolve, Or 'Look Again!" "... Whether on the land or in the sea, prayer is thy life, and thou canst not exit without it if thou be indeed born from on nigh."



Charles Spurgeon, from a sermon titled "Jonah's Resolve, Or 'Look Again!" "The prayer of a Christian is not an attempt to force God's hand, but a humble acknowledgement of helplessness and dependence. When we are on our knees, we know that it is not we who control the world; it is not in our power, ..."

> J.I. Packer, Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God

"... therefore, to supply our needs by our own independent efforts; every good thing that we desire for ourselves and for others must be sought from God, and will come, if it comes at all, as a gift from His hands."

#### J.I. Packer, Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God

#### Psalm 69:1-2

Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.

#### Romans 7:24

#### Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?



# God's will forgive our sins when we confess our sins.

# Stages to God's Forgiveness for Jonah

1. Jonah's Distress (vs. 1-6a)

2. Jonah's Deliverance (vs. 6b-10)

### Did Jonah Die in the Fish's Belly?

- Based on Jesus likening himself to Jonah (Matt 12:40)
- The author never says Jonah died.
- Also, Jonah had to be alive to pray. He said He was near death (vs. 2, 5-6) but never actually died.
- Finally, Jonah didn't need to die and be resurrected like Jesus.

"All this time Jonah has been in the fish travelling back to dry land. Now the journey is over. Yahweh speaks to the fish, his instrument of salvation for Jonah. It obediently and doubtless gladly spews up this indigestible object and swims off with a flick of its tail, its distinguished mission accomplished."

Leslie Allen, The Books of Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, and Micah

#### **Ephesians** 1:7

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

#### Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.