

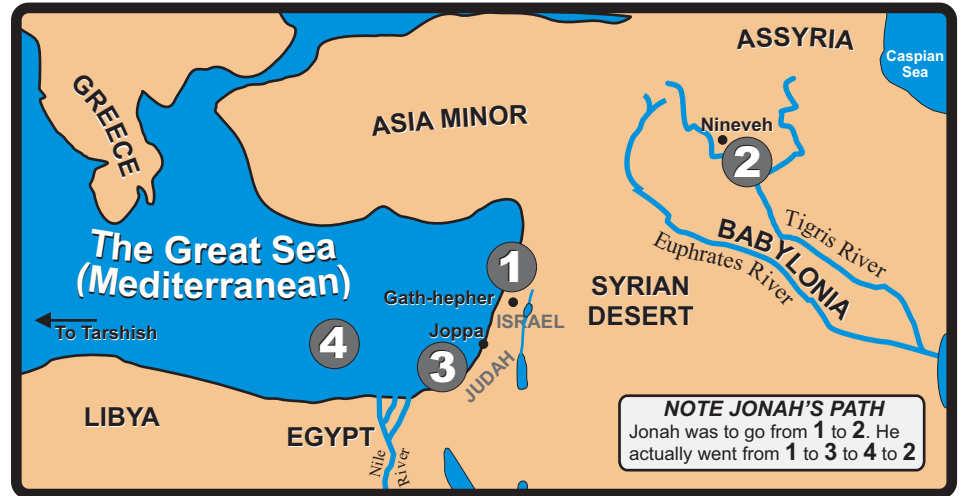
BOOK OF JONAH OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND

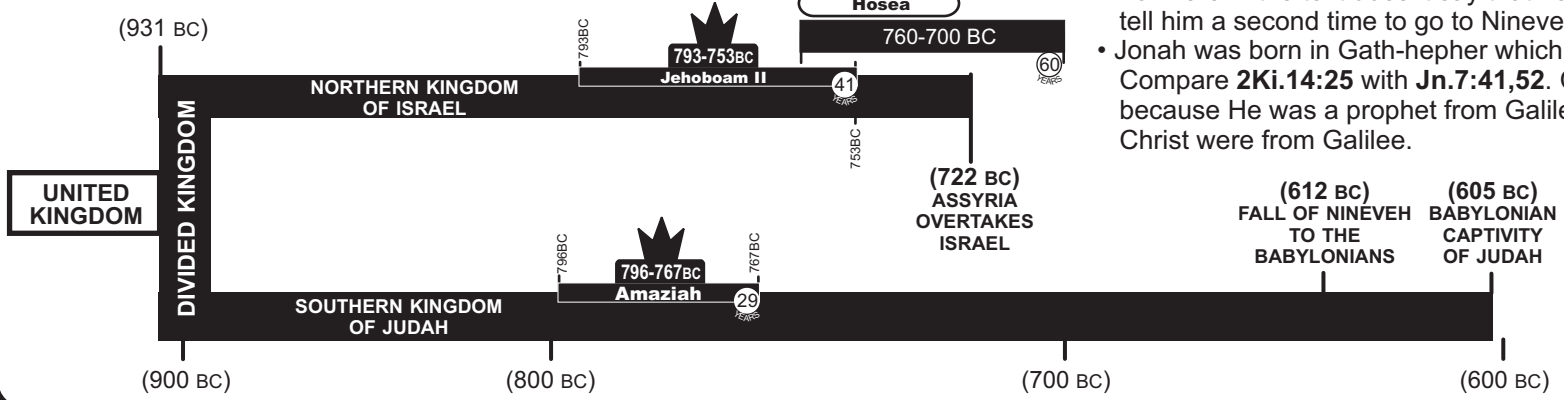
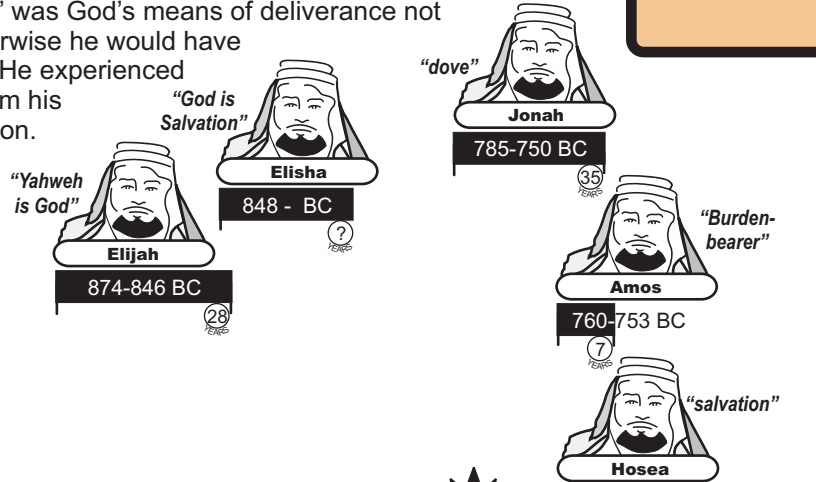
Nineveh was the capital of Assyria. Assyria had already begun her dominance in the near east. For a time Assyria's power was weak enough to allow Israel, under Jeroboam II, to expand her borders (2Ki.14:25). Israel's expansion during this period was due to God's compassion on His people. It was not because of Israel's godliness, or leadership. In fact Jeroboam II was a bad king. Jonah's ministry in Israel saw an outpouring of God's grace, though Israel did not repent. So Jonah experienced God's grace first hand. Now will he be able to share the same grace with others.

SUMMARY NOTES

- Jonah is a graphic portrayal of the nation of Israel (Ex.32:9).
- The book is not written to give us a warm and fuzzy feeling, but to leave us uncomfortable so we think about our purpose.
- Jonah helps break our stereotype of prophets.
- The "Great fish" was God's means of deliverance not judgment, otherwise he would have drowned. Also He experienced deliverance from his spiritual condition.



PROPHETS OF ISRAEL



SUMMARY NOTES CONTINUED

- Because pride was Jonah's principle problem, God did not flatter him by the means He chose to rescue him.
- Jonah had the outward trappings of righteousness, but lacked genuine righteousness in his life (as did Israel).
- Jonah shows his OT mind set as a Jew. He rested on his election as an Israelite. He thought he had intrinsic worth.
- Jonah's plight is a prototype of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Mt.12:39-41).
- The only promise Jonah makes (chap 2) is to go back home to Israel, not Nineveh, to offer a sacrifice.
- Often we assume in chap 2 that Jonah repented. But nowhere in the text does it say that he did. Plus God had to tell him a second time to go to Nineveh (3:1-2).
- Jonah was born in Gath-hepher which is in lower Galilee. Compare 2Ki.14:25 with Jn.7:41,52. Christ was challenged because He was a prophet from Galilee. So Jonah, and Christ were from Galilee.