

Jonah 3 Sample Observations.

Based on the English Standard Version

3:1-4. Title: Jonah obeyed God and pronounced judgment upon Nineveh.

3:1. Who? The LORD, Jonah

What? The word of the LORD came

To whom? to Jonah

How often? The second time, saying

3:2. What? “Arise

What? “Go

Where? “To Nineveh

How did God characterize it? “That great city

What was Jonah to do? “And call out against it

What? “The message I tell you.”

3:3. What did Jonah do? So Jonah arose

Where did he go? And went to Nineveh

Why? According to the word of the LORD.

How big was Nineveh? Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city,

How great? Three days’ journey in breadth.

3:4. What did Jonah do? Jonah began to go into the city,

How far? Going a day’s journey.

What did Jonah say? And he called out,

How long? “Yet forty days,

What? “And Nineveh shall be overthrown!”¹

3:5-9. Title: The People of Nineveh and their Leaders show humility and repent to avert disaster!

3:5. Who? The people of Nineveh.

What did they do? They believed God!

How did they show their faith?

They called for a fast

They put on sackcloth

Who participated?

From the greatest of them

To the least of them.

3:6. What happened? The word reached Whom? The king of Nineveh

What did the king do?

He arose from the throne

He removed his robe

He covered himself with sackcloth

and sat in ashes

3:7. What else did the king of Nineveh do?

¹ Shall be overthrown: The [Nifal Participle](#) Feminine Singular [Absolute](#) of the verb *hafák* ([2015](#)). This verb is the Passive Form of the same verb that is used in describing the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and surrounding cities in Gen. 19:21, 25, 29.

He issued a proclamation

and published Where? Through Nineveh

What was his proclamation?

By decree

Of whom?

The king

and his nobles

The prohibition – to whom does it apply?

Let neither man

nor beast

herd,

nor flock

The prohibition – what was its content?

Taste anything

Let them not feed

Or drink water.

3:8. The mandate – what were they commanded to do?

But let man

And beast

With what were they to be covered?

Be covered with sackcloth,

What were they to do?

Let them call out

How? Mightily

To whom? To God

What were they to do?

Let everyone turn from his evil way

And from the violence that is in his hands.

3:9. Why were they to do all this?

Who knows?

God may turn

and relent

and turn from his fierce anger

What would be the result? So that we may not perish.

3:10. Title: Because of their repentance, God relented of the evil that He had promised against the people of Nineveh.

What? When God saw what they did

how they turned from their evil way,

What did God do?

God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them,

and he did not do it.

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