CHRIST AND JONAH

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Matthew 12:38-50

Tuesday: Jonah 1 Wednesday: Jonah 2 Thursday: Jonah 3 Friday: Jonah 4

Saturday: Matthew 16:1-12 Sunday: Luke 11:29-54

Luke 11:30

For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

約拿怎樣為尼尼微人成了神蹟,人子也要照樣為這世代的人成了神蹟。

INTRODUCTION:

Poor Jonah has suffered much ridicule at the hands of the "higher critics" of the Bible. But the fact that Jesus refers to Jonah three times in the Gospels dispels any doubt about the "great fish story." Also, actual experience has shown that a man may be swallowed by a whale and live to tell the tale. This has been repeated on several occasions. Perhaps Jonah like one who had a similar experience lived to show the stains of the whale's digestive juices on his skin and so was a sign to the men of Nineveh.

LESSON NOTES:

The Sign of Jonas: On three different occasions the Lord spoke of "the sign of Jonas" (see Matthew 12:39, 16:4; Luke 11:29). The scribes and Pharisees desired Jesus to show them a sign. But Jesus refused and said there would be no sign except the sign of Jonas. "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40). This precise statement of Jesus gives its support to those who assert that Jesus died in the middle of the week and not on Friday. In order to satisfy the unequivocal "three days and three nights" the sabbath before which Jesus died must have been a mid-week sabbath connected with the celebration of the Passover on the 14th day of the first month. The sabbath after which Christ arose was the regular weekly holy day. This would allow for three days and three nights and fulfill "the sign of Jonas" (see "Bread of Life," March, 1972, p. 3 "In The Heart of the Earth" by Rev. Gottfried Waldvogel).

ON THREE DIFFERENT OCCASIONS THE LORD SPOKE OF "THE SIGN OF JONAS"

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|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Matthew 12:39 | Matthew 16:4 | Luke 11:29 | | |
| But he answered and said unto | A wicked and adulterous | And when the people were | | |
| them, An evil and adulterous | generation seeketh after a sign; | gathered thick together, he began | | |
| generation seeketh after a sign; | and there shall no sign be given | to say, This is an evil generation: | | |
| and there shall no sign be given to | unto it, but the sign of the prophet | they seek a sign; and there shall no | | |
| it, but the sign of the prophet | Jonas. And he left them, and | sign be given it, but the sign of | | |
| Jonas: | departed. | Jonas the prophet. | | |
| 耶穌回答說:一個邪惡淫 | 一個邪惡淫亂的世代求神 | 當眾人聚集的時候,耶穌開 | | |
| 亂的世代求看神蹟,除了 | 蹟,除了約拿的神蹟以 | 講說:這世代是一個邪惡 | | |
| 先知約拿的神蹟以外,再 | 外,再沒有神蹟給他看。 | 的世代。他們求看神蹟, | | |
| 沒有神蹟給他們看。 | 耶穌就離開他們去了。 | 除了約拿的神蹟以外,再 | | |
| | | 沒有神蹟給他們看。 | | |

| Matthew | For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be | |
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| 12:40 | three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. | |
| | 約拿三日三夜在大魚肚腹中,人子也要這樣三日三夜在地裡頭。 | |

Jesus upbraided the scribes and Pharisees when they asked for a sign (Matthew 16:1) because they could discern the signs of the weather but were totally unable to "discern the signs of the times" (v. 3).

| Matthew | ¹ The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew |
|---------|---|
| 16:1-3 | them a sign from heaven. |
| | 法利賽人和撒都該人來試探耶穌,請他從天上顯個神蹟給他們看。 |
| | ² He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. |
| | 耶穌回答說:晚上天發紅,你們就說:天必要晴。 |
| | ³ And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? |
| | 早晨天發紅,又發黑,你們就說:今日必有風雨。你們知道分辨天上的氣色,倒不能分辨這時候的神蹟。 |

The Men of Nineveh: Our memory verse states that Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites. He was a man back from the dead. Perhaps the mariners to whom Jonah told his story brought the news back to port. Did the story of the miraculous escape precede Jonah to Nineveh? Or could it be that Jonah's skin was stained by the digestive juices of the whale? Whatever the case, in some way, Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, and his message brought sensational results.

"Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city" (3:3). It was the capital city of Israel's archenemy: Assyria. It was a three-day journey to go through the city. More than 120,000 "persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand" (probably children) were among the inhabitants.

The message preached was, "Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown" (3:4). When the king heard the message, he clothed himself in sackcloth, sat in ashes, and proclaimed a fast of repentance for the whole city. So thorough was this repentance that God changed the edict of judgment (3:10).

| Jonah | So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh |
|-------|---|
| 3:3 | was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. |
| | 約拿便照耶和華的話起來,往尼尼微去。這尼尼微是極大的城,有三 |
| | 日的路程。 |
| Jonah | And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, |
| 3:4 | and Nineveh shall be overthrown. |
| | 約拿進城走了一日,宣告說:再等四十日,尼尼微必傾覆了! |
| Jonah | And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, |
| 3:10 | that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not. |
| | 於是神察看他們的行為,見他們離開惡道,他就後悔,不把所說的災 |
| | 禍 降 與 他 們 了 。 |

Jesus compared the sincere repentance of the Ninevites at the preaching of Jonah to the unbelief of the contemporary generation at the preaching of one "greater than Jonas" (Luke 11:32). Nowhere else in the

Scripture is there found a more striking example of repentance. It is all the more amazing because it was a Gentile heathen city.

| Luke | The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: |
|-------|---|
| 11:32 | for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here. |
| | 當審判的時候,尼尼微人要起來定這世代的罪,因為尼尼微人聽了約 |
| | 拿所傳的就悔改了。看哪!在這裡有一人比約拿更大。 |

It is interesting to note that after the "resurrection" of Jonah from the depths, an entire Gentile community should believe and repent, and cry mightily to God. In a similar fashion, after Jesus rose from "three days and three nights in the heart of the earth," the door was opened to the Gentiles and soon many repented and believed and turned to God from serving idols

Jesus warned that the Ninevites would arise and condemn that generation in the judgment day because they repented at the preaching of Jonah while His generation looked for signs and refused to repent (Luke 11:32).

THE LESSONS:

The servant of God cannot choose where and what to preach. That prerogative $\frac{1}{4}$ belongs to our Lord. The vessel must go where the Lord sends and preach what He gives.

Nineveh was the capital city of Israel's greatest enemy. A patriotic Jew would rejoice at the overthrow of the enemy's capital. But God counts every soul precious and granted opportunity for repentance to Nineveh. We must never allow nationalism to blind us to the value of the souls of all men, including our enemies.

We have the greatest "sign" imaginable in our resurrected Lord. As Jonah was a sign of hope for deliverance to the Ninevites so Jesus, the first to rise from the dead is our "sign" of hope for deliverance from death to eternal life with Him. While "signs and wonders" are a part of the gospel, to seek them in an attitude of curiosity will put us in the same class with the scribes and Pharisees. If we repent at the preaching of the One who rose from the dead, all the blessings of His Kingdom will be ours including signs and wonders.

Prayer:

May the Lord make us to be the kind of man that is poor and of a conbrite spirit, and trembles at His Word.

Isaiah 66:1-2

¹Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

耶和華如此說:天是我的座位;地是我的腳凳。你們要為我造何等的殿宇?哪裡是我安息的地方呢?

²For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will look, even to him that is <u>poor and of a contrite spirit</u>, and trembleth at my word.

耶和華說:這一切都是我手所造的,所以就都有了。但我所看顧的,就是虛心(原文是貧窮)痛悔、因我話而戰兢的人。

Monday: Matthew 12:38-50

 38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. 當時,有幾個文士和法利賽人對耶穌說:夫子,我們願意你顯個神蹟給我們看。

³⁹But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

耶穌回答說:一個邪惡淫亂的世代求看神蹟,除了先知約拿的神蹟以外,再沒有神蹟給他們看。

⁴⁰For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

約拿三日三夜在大魚肚腹中,人子也要這樣三日三夜在地裡頭。

⁴¹The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

當審判的時候,尼尼微人要起來定這世代的罪,因為尼尼微人聽了約拿所傳的就悔改了。看哪,在這裡有一人比約拿更大!

⁴²The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

當審判的時候,南方的女王要起來定這世代的罪,因為他從地極而來,要聽所羅門的智慧話。看哪!在這裡有一人比所羅門更大。

⁴³When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 污鬼離了人身,就在無水之地過來過去,尋求安歇之處,卻尋不著。

⁴⁴Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished.

於是說:我要回到我所出來的屋裡去。到了,就看見裡面空閒,打掃乾淨,修飾好了,

⁴⁵Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

便去另带了七個比自己更惡的鬼來,都進去住在那裡。那人末後的景況比先前更不好了。這邪惡的世代也要如此。

⁴⁶While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

耶、蘇、還、對、眾、人、說、話、的、時、候、,不、料、他、母、親、和、他、弟、兄、站、在、外、邊、、要、與、他、說、話、。

⁴⁷Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. 有人告訴他說:看哪,你母親和你弟兄站在外邊,要與你說話。

⁴⁸But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? 他 卻 回 答 那 人 說 : 誰 是 我 的 母 親 ? 誰 是 我 的 弟 兄 ? 49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! 就 伸 手 指 著 門 徒 , 說 : 看 哪 , 我 的 母 親 , 我 的 弟 兄 。

⁵⁰For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

凡遵行我天父旨意的人,就是我的弟兄姐妹和母親了。

Tuesday: Jonah 1

¹Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 耶和華的話臨到亞米太的兒子約拿,說:

²Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. 你 起 來 往 尼 微 大 城 去 , 向 其 中 的 居 民 呼 喊 , 因 為 他 們 的 惡 達 到 我 面 前 。

³But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. (Note: Tarshish: The name of a Phoenician port in Spain)

約 拿 卻 起 來 , 逃 往 他 施 去 躲 避 耶 和 華 ; 下 到 約 帕 , 遇 見 一 隻 船 , 要 往 他 施 去 。 他 就 給 了 船 價 , 上 了 船 , 要 與 船 上 的 人 同 往 他 施 去 躲 避 耶 和 華 。

⁴But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

然而耶和華使海中起大風,海就狂風大作,甚至船幾乎破壞。

⁵Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

水手便懼怕,各人哀求自己的神。他們將船上的貨物拋在海中,為要使船輕些。約拿已下到底艙,躺臥沉睡。

⁶So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

船主到他那裡對他說:你這沉睡的人哪,為何這樣呢?起來,求告你的 神,或者神顧念我們,使我們不致滅亡。

⁷And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

船上的人彼此說:來吧,我們掣籤,看看這災臨到我們是因誰的緣故。於是他們掣籤,掣出約拿來。

⁸Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

眾人對他說:請你告訴我們,這災臨到我們是因誰的緣故?你以何事為業?你從哪裡來?你是哪一國?屬哪一族的人?

⁹And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.

他說:我是希伯來人。我敬畏耶和華一那創造滄海旱地之天上的神。

¹⁰Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him. Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

他們就大大懼怕,對他說:你做的是甚麼事呢?他們已經知道他躲避耶和華,因為他告訴了他們。

他們問他說:我們當向你怎樣行,使海浪平靜呢?這話是因海浪越發翻騰。

他對他們說:你們將我抬起來,拋在海中,海就平靜了;我知道你們遭這大風是因我的緣故。

然而那些人竭力盪漿,要把船攤岸,卻是不能,因為海浪越發向他們翻騰。

耶和華安排一條大魚吞了約拿,他在魚腹中三日三夜。

¹¹Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

¹²And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.

¹³Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them.

¹⁴Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased thee. 他們便求告耶和華說:耶和華啊,我們懇求你,不要因這人的性命使我們死亡,不要使流無辜血的罪歸與我們;因為你─耶和華是隨自己的意旨行事。

 $^{^{15}}$ So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging. 他 們 遂 將 約 拿 抬 起 , 拋 在 海 中 , 海 的 狂 浪 就 平 息 了 。

¹⁶Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows. 那些人便大大敬畏耶和華,向耶和華獻祭,並且許願。

¹⁷Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Wednesday: Jonah 2

¹Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, 約 拿 在 魚 腹 中 禱 告 耶 和 華 ─ 他 的 神 ,

²And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.

說: 我遭遇患難求告耶和華,你就應允我;從陰間的深處呼求,你就俯聽我的聲音。

³For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.

你將我投下深淵,就是海的深處;大水環繞我,你的波浪洪濤都漫過我身。

⁴Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.

我說:我從你眼前雖被驅逐,我仍要仰望你的聖殿。

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

諸水環繞我,幾乎淹沒我;深淵圍住我;海草纏繞我的頭。

⁶I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God.

我下到山根,地的門將我永遠關住。耶和華一我的 神啊,你卻將我的性命從坑中救出來。

⁷When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.

我心在我裡面發昏的時候,我就想念耶和華。我的禱告進入你的聖殿,達到你的面前。

⁸They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

那信奉虚無之神的人,離棄憐愛他們的主;

⁹But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.

但我必用感謝的聲音獻祭與你。我所許的願,我必償還。救恩出於耶和華。

 10 And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

耶和華吩咐魚,魚就把約拿吐在旱地上。

Thursday: Jonah 3

¹And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 耶和華的話二次臨到約拿說:

³So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.

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約拿便照耶和華的話起來,往尼尼微去。這尼尼微是極大的城,有三日的路程。
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⁴And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

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約拿進城走了一日,宣告說:再等四十日,尼尼微必傾覆了!
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⁵So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

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尼尼微人信服神,便宣告禁食,從最大的到至小的都穿麻衣(或譯:披上麻布)。
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⁶For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

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這信息傳到尼尼微王的耳中,他就下了寶座,脫下朝服,披上麻布,坐在灰中。
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⁷And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: 他又使人遍告尼微通城,說:王和大臣有令,人不可嘗甚麼,牲畜、牛羊不可吃草,也不可喝水。

⁸But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.

人與牲畜都當披上麻布;人要切切求告神。各人回頭離開所行的惡道,丟棄手中的強暴。

⁹Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? 或者 神轉意後悔,不發烈怒,使我們不致滅亡,也未可知。

¹⁰And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

於是神察看他們的行為,見他們離開惡道,他就後悔,不把所說的災禍降與他們了。

²Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. 你起來! 往尼尼微大城去,向其中的居民宣告我所吩咐你的話。

Jonah 1:1-3

¹Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

耶和華的話臨到亞米太的兒子約拿,說:

²Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

你起來往尼尼微大城去,向其中的居民呼喊,因為他們的惡達到我面前。

³<u>But</u> Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

約拿卻起來,逃往他施去躲避耶和華;下到約帕,遇見一隻船,要往他施去。他就給了船價,上了船,要與船上的人同往他施去躲避耶和華。

Jonah 3:1-3

¹And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying,

耶和華的話二次臨到約拿說:

²Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

你起來!往尼尼微大城去,向其中的居民宣告我所吩咐你的話。

³So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.

約拿便照耶和華的話起來,往尼尼微去。這尼尼微是極大的城,有三日的路程。

Friday: Jonah 4

¹But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

這事約拿大大不悅,且甚發怒,

²And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

就禱告耶和華說:耶和華啊,我在本國的時候,豈不是這樣說嗎?我知道你是有恩典、有憐憫的神,不輕易發怒,有豐盛的慈愛,並且後悔不降所說的災,所以我急速逃往他施去。

³Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live. 耶和華啊,現在求你取我的命吧!因為我死了比活著還好。

⁴Then said the LORD, <u>Doest thou well to be angry?</u>

耶和華說:你這樣發怒合乎理嗎?

⁵So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

於是約拿出城,坐在城的東邊,在那裡為自己搭了一座棚,坐在棚的蔭下,要看看那城究竟如何。

⁶And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

耶和華 神安排一棵蓖麻,使其發生高過約拿,影兒遮蓋他的頭,救他脫離苦楚; 約拿因這棵蓖麻大大喜樂。

⁷But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered. 次日黎明, 神卻安排一條蟲子咬這蓖麻,以致枯槁。

 8 And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live. 日 頭 出 來 的 時 候 , 神 安 排 炎 熱 的 東 風 , 日 頭 曝 曬 約 拿 的 頭 , 使 他 發 昏 , 他 就 為 自己 求 死 , 說 : 我 死 了 比 活 著 還 好 !

⁹And God said to Jonah, <u>Doest thou well to be angry</u> for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

神對約拿說:你因這棵蓖麻發怒合乎理嗎?他說:我發怒以至於死,都合乎理!

¹⁰Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

耶和華說:這蓖麻,不是你栽種的,也不是你培養的;一夜發生,一夜乾死,你尚且愛惜;

¹¹And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

何況這尼尼微大城,其中不能分辨左手右手的有十二萬多人,並有許多牲畜,我豈能不愛惜呢?

Saturday: Matthew 16:1-12

¹The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

法利賽人和撒都該人來試探耶穌,請他從天上顯個神蹟給他們看。

²He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. 耶穌回答說:晚上天發紅,你們就說:天必要晴。

³And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?

早晨天發紅,又發黑,你們就說:今日必有風雨。你們知道分辨天上的氣色,倒不能分辨這時候的神蹟。

⁴A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

一個邪惡淫亂的世代求神蹟,除了約拿的神蹟以外,再沒有神蹟給他看。耶穌就離開他們去了。

⁵And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread.

門徒渡到那邊去,忘了帶餅。

⁶Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

耶穌對他們說:你們要謹慎,防備法利賽人和撒都該人的酵。

⁷And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread.

門徒彼此議論說:這是因為我們沒有帶餅罷。

⁸Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?

耶穌看出來,就說:你們這小信的人,為甚麼因為沒有餅彼此議論呢?

⁹Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?

你們還不明白麼?不記得那五個餅分給五千人、又收拾了多少籃子的零碎麼?

¹⁰Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 也不記得那七個餅分給四千人、又收拾了多少筐子的零碎麼?

¹¹How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

我對你們說:要防備法利賽人和撒都該人的酵,這話不是指著餅說的,你們怎麼不明白呢?

¹²Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

門徒這才曉得他說的不是叫他們防備餅的酵,乃是防備法利賽人和撒都該人的教訓。

Sunday: Luke 11:29-54

²⁹And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet.

當眾人聚集的時候,耶穌開講說:這世代是一個邪惡的世代。他們求看神蹟,除了約拿的神蹟以外,再沒有神蹟給他們看。

³⁰For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

約拿怎樣為尼尼微人成了神蹟,人子也要照樣為這世代的人成了神蹟。

³¹The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

當審判的時候,南方的女王要起來定這世代的罪;因為他從地極而來,要聽所羅門的智慧話。看哪!在這裡有一人比所羅門更大。

³²The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

當審判的時候,尼尼微人要起來定這世代的罪,因為尼尼微人聽了約拿所傳的就悔改了。看哪!在這裡有一人比約拿更大。

論心裏的光(太5:15; 6:22-23)

³³No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

沒有人點燈放在地窨子裡,或是斗底下,總是放在燈臺上,使進來的人得見亮光。

³⁴The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness.

你眼睛就是身上的燈。你的眼睛若瞭亮,全身就光明;眼睛若昏花,全身就黑暗。

³⁵Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness.

所以,你要省察,恐怕你裡頭的光或者黑暗了。

³⁶If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

若是你全身光明,毫無黑暗,就必全然光明,如同燈的明光照亮你。

³⁷And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat. 說話的時候,有一個法利賽人請耶穌同他吃飯,耶穌就進去坐席。

 38 And when the Pharisee saw it, he marvelled that he had not first washed before dinner. 這 法 利 賽 人 看 見 耶 穌 飯 前 不 洗 手 便 詫 異 。

³⁹And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness.

主對他說:如今你們法利賽人洗淨杯盤的外面,你們裡面卻滿了勒索和邪惡。

 40 Ye fools, did not he that made that which is without make that which is within also? 無 知 的 人 哪 , 造 外 面 的 , 不 也 造 裡 面 麼 ?

⁴¹But rather give alms of such things as ye have; and, behold, all things are clean unto you. 只要把裡面的施捨給人,凡物於你們就都潔淨了。

⁴²But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

你們法利賽人有禍了!因為你們將薄荷、芸香並各樣菜蔬獻上十分之一,那公義和愛神的事反倒不行了。這原是你們當行的;那也是不可不行的。

⁴³Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets. 你們法利賽人有禍了! 因為你們喜愛會堂裡的首位,又喜愛人在街市上問你們的安。

⁴⁴Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over them are not aware of them.

你們有禍了!因為你們如同不顯露的墳墓,走在上面的人並不知道。

⁴⁵Then answered one of the lawyers, and said unto him, Master, thus saying thou reproachest us also. 律法師中有一個回答耶穌說:夫子!你這樣說也把我們糟蹋了。

⁴⁶And he said, Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.

耶穌說:你們律法師也有禍了!因為你們把難擔的擔子放在人身上,自己一個指頭卻不肯動。

⁴⁷Woe unto you! for ye build the sepulchres of the prophets, and your fathers killed them.

你們有禍了!因為你們修造先知的墳墓,那先知正是你們的祖宗所殺的。

⁴⁸Truly ye bear witness that ye allow the deeds of your fathers: for they indeed killed them, and ye build their sepulchres.

可見你們祖宗所作的事,你們又證明又喜歡;因為他們殺了先知,你們修造先知的墳墓。

⁴⁹Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they shall slay and persecute:

所以,神用智慧(用智慧:或作的智者)曾說:我要差遣先知和使徒到他們那裡去,有的他們要殺害,有的他們要逼迫,

⁵⁰That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation;

使創世以來所流眾先知血的罪都要問在這世代的人身上,

⁵¹From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.

就是從亞伯的血起,直到被殺在壇和殿中間撒迦利亞的血為止。我實在告訴你們,這都要問在這世代的人身上。

⁵²Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.

你們律法師有禍了!因為你們把知識的鑰匙奪了去,自己不進去,正要進去的人你們也阻擋他們。

⁵³And as he said these things unto them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to urge him vehemently, and to provoke him to speak of many things:

耶穌從那裡出來,文士和法利賽人就極力的催逼他,引動他多說話,

 54 Laying wait for him, and seeking to catch something out of his mouth, that they might accuse him. 私 下 窺 聽 , 要 拿 他 的 話 柄 。

The Sign of Jonah

Matthew 12:38-42

³⁸Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.

當時,有幾個文士和法利賽人對耶穌 說:夫子,我們願意你顯個神蹟給我們 看。

³⁹But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

耶穌回答說:一個邪惡淫亂的世代求看神蹟,除了先知約拿的神蹟以外,再沒有神蹟給他們看。

⁴⁰For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

約拿三日三夜在大魚肚腹中,人子也要這樣三日三夜在地裡頭。

⁴¹The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

當審判的時候,尼尼微人要起來定這世代的罪,因為尼尼微人聽了約拿所傳的就悔改了。看哪,在這裡有一人比約拿更大!

⁴²The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

當審判的時候,南方的女王要起來定這世代的罪,因為他從地極而來,要聽所羅門的智慧話。看哪!在這裡有一人比所羅門更大。

Luke 11:29-32

²⁹And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet.

當眾人聚集的時候,耶穌開講說:這世代是一個邪惡的世代。他們求看神蹟,除了約拿的神蹟以外,再沒有神蹟給他們看。

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Pharisees Demand a Miraculour Sign

Matthew 16:1-4

¹The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

法利賽人和撒都該人來試探耶穌,請他從天上顯個神蹟給他們看。

²He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.

耶 穌 回 答 說 : 晚 上 天 發 紅 , 你 們 就 說 : 天 必 要 晴 。

³And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?

早晨天發紅,又發黑,你們就說:今日必有風雨。你們知道分辨天上的氣色,倒不能分辨這時候的神蹟。

⁴A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

一個邪惡淫亂的世代求神蹟,除了約拿的神蹟以外,再沒有神蹟給他看。耶穌就離開他們去了。

Mark 8:11-13

¹¹And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign from heaven, tempting him.

法利賽人出來盤問耶穌,求他從天上顯個神蹟給他們看,想要試探他。

¹²And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? verily I say unto you, There shall no sign be given unto this generation.

耶穌心裡深深的歎息,說:這世代為甚麼求神蹟呢?我實在告訴你們,沒有神蹟給這世代看。

¹³And he left them, and entering into the ship again departed to the other side.

他就離開他們,又上船往海那邊去了。