


when God comes

CLOSE

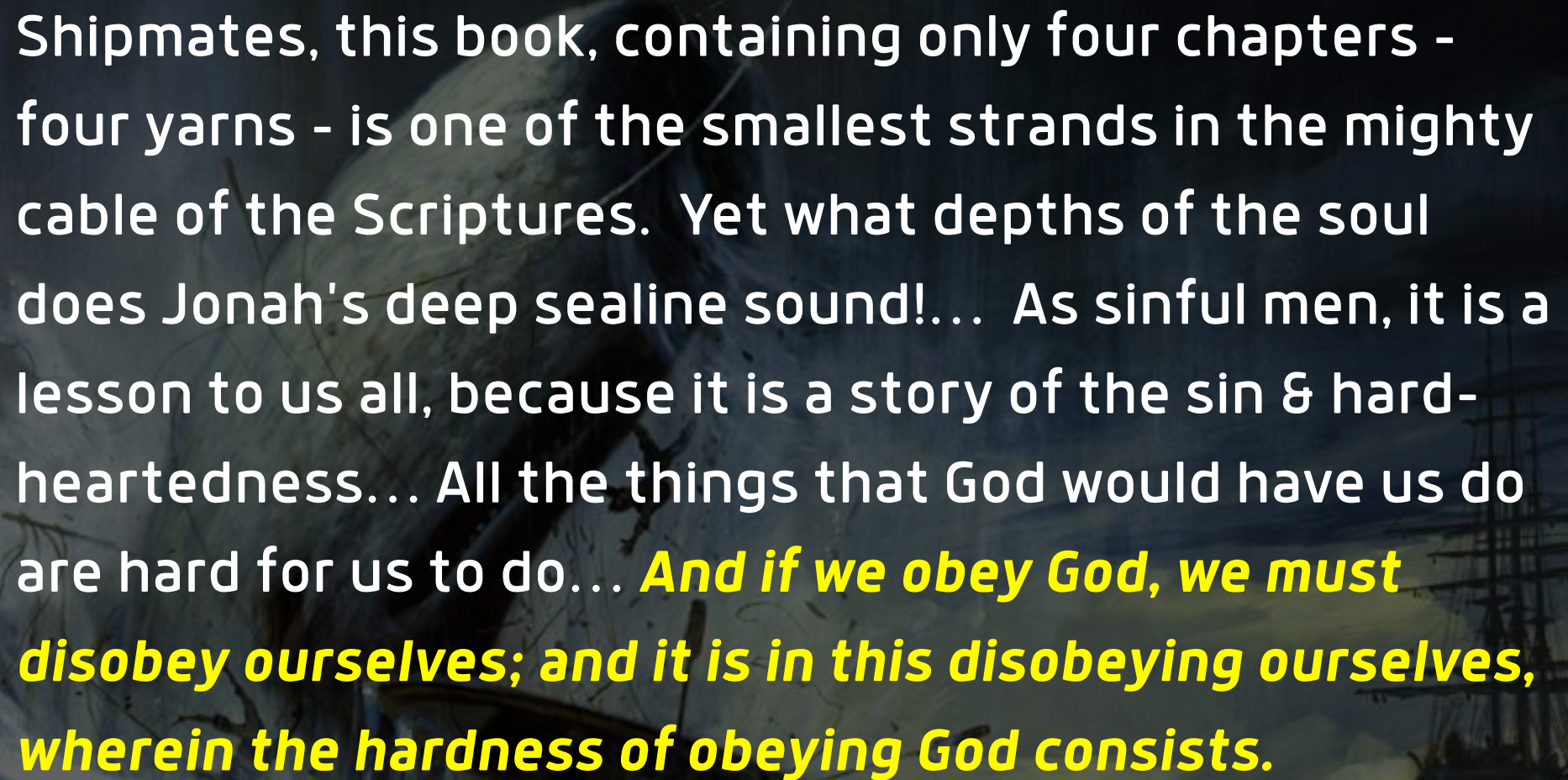
A silhouette of a person stands on a dark, grassy hill, looking out over a landscape. To their left are large, white, three-dimensional letters spelling out the word 'CLOSE'. The background is a vibrant sunset or sunrise sky, transitioning from a deep blue at the top to a warm orange and yellow near the horizon. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.



MOBY DICK

HERMAN MELVILLE

*"what depths of the soul does Jonah's
deep sealine sound!" -Page 36 Herman Melville*



Shipmates, this book, containing only four chapters - four yarns - is one of the smallest strands in the mighty cable of the Scriptures. Yet what depths of the soul does Jonah's deep sealine sound!... As sinful men, it is a lesson to us all, because it is a story of the sin & hard-heartedness... All the things that God would have us do are hard for us to do... **And if we obey God, we must disobey ourselves; and it is in this disobeying ourselves, wherein the hardness of obeying God consists.**

-Moby Dick by Herman Melville, Page 36



Matt. 12:39-41 He answered, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For ***as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish***, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ ***The people of Nineveh*** will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for ***they repented at the preaching of Jonah***, and now ***something greater than Jonah is here.***

(Also in: Matt. 16:4 & Luke 11:29-32)

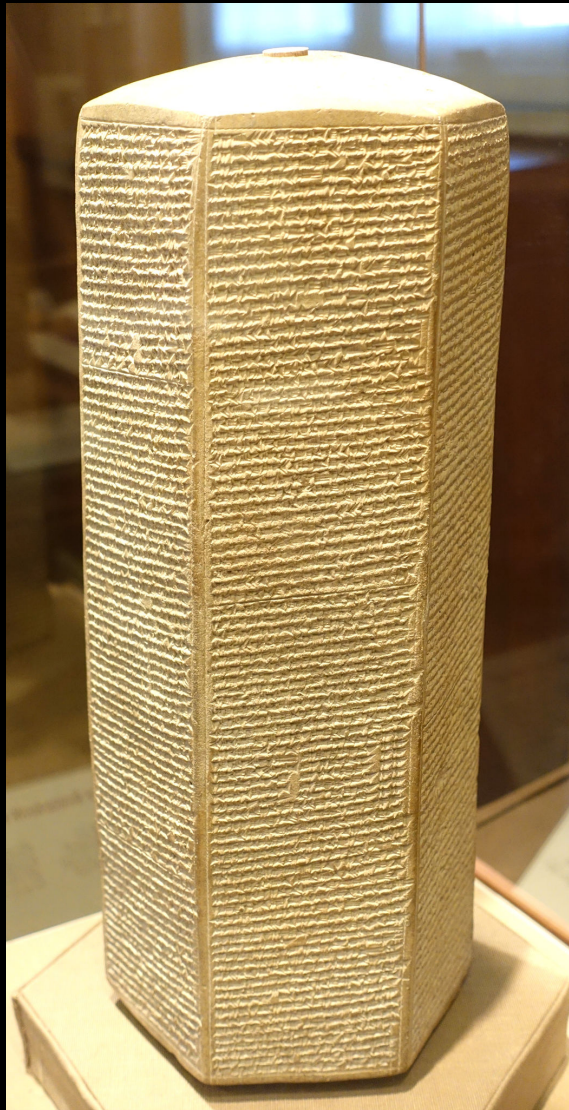
1 JONAH REJECTS GOD'S MISSION

Jonah 1:2-3 “**Go immediately to Nineveh**, that large capital city, & announce judgment against its people because their wickedness has come to my attention.” ³ **Instead, Jonah immediately headed off to Tarshish to escape** from the commission of the Lord.



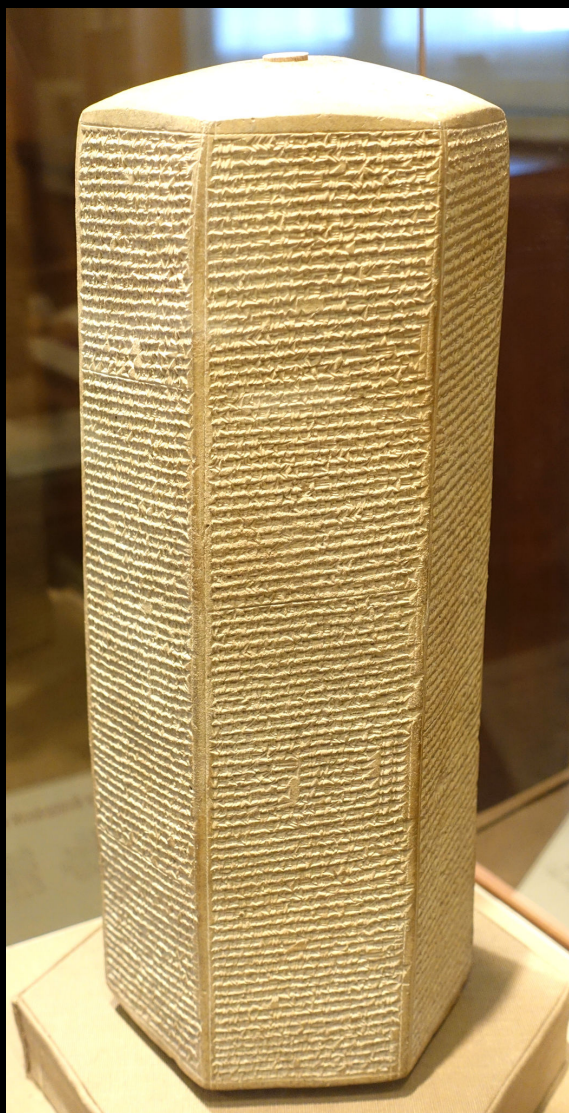
JONAH'S JOURNEY



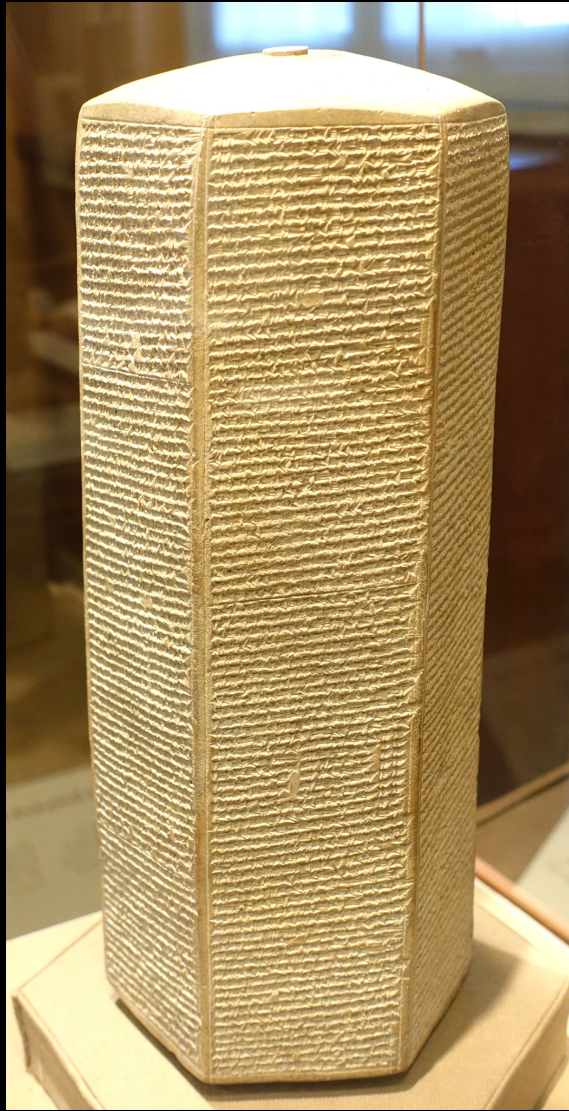


One Assyrian King, named Ashurnasirpal II, left a whole series of these tablets behind, and the descriptions are terrifying. *"I flayed many right through my land and draped their skins over the walls,"* he boasts in one. *"I burned their adolescent boys and girls . . . A pillar of heads I erected in front of the city."*

"Make peace with me and come out to me!" the envoy called out. "Then each of you will eat fruit from your own vine and fig tree and drink water from your own cistern." Those who did not, he warned, "will have to eat their own **BLANK** and drink their own **BLANK**."



"The city and its houses, from its foundations to its top, I destroyed, I devastated, I burned with fire," Seenacherib declared. *"Through the midst of that city I dug canals, I flooded its site with water, and the very foundations thereof I destroyed. I made its destruction more complete than that by a flood. That in days to come the site of that city, and its temples and gods, might not be remembered, I completely blotted it out with floods of water and made it like a meadow."*











1

JONAH REJECTS GOD'S MISSION

³ ... Jonah went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After **paying the fare**, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the Lord.

⁴ Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵ All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship. But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and was sound asleep.

1

JONAH REJECTS GOD'S MISSION

***Flirting, Dishonesty, Gossip,
Shirking responsibilities,
Follow misguided priorities, or
uncontrolled compulsions...***

Sin always has a cost. Sometimes the cost is obvious sometime subtle. The consequences can effect our relationship with God and others. It can effect our health or finances. They can even put others in peril. Be on guard and bring your temptations & struggles to God without delay.

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Greg Laurie ✓

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Sin will take you farther than you want to go,
it will keep you longer than you want to stay,
and it will cost you more than you want to
pay.

1 JONAH REJECTS GOD'S MISSION



Author use Satire/Irony:

Jonah the prophet sleeps.

Pagan sailors who pray when in danger, want to preserve Jonah's life, even though Jonah has cost them their livelihood and endangered their lives! When delivered from the storm they give thanks and worship Jonah's God!

2

JONAH'S PRAYER

Jonah 2:1&9 “From inside the fish Jonah prayed, **I called out** to the Lord from **my distress**, & he answered me... From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry.



3

JONAH AND THE NINEVITES



3 JONAH AND THE NINEVITES

Jonah 3:4 “At the end of forty days, Nineveh will be overthrown!”

Hebrew: 5 words

3

JONAH AND THE NINEVITES

Jonah 3 **The people of Nineveh believed in God...**



3

JONAH AND THE NINEVITES

Jonah 3 **The people of Nineveh believed in God...**

the king of Nineveh... issued a proclamation ... No human or animal, cattle or sheep, is to taste anything; they must not eat & they must not drink water... Every person and animal must put on sackcloth and must cry earnestly to God, and **everyone must turn from their evil way of living** and from the violence that they do. ***Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion*** turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.”



4 JONAH'S ANGER WITH GOD'S MERCY



Jonah 4:1 **This displeased Jonah**
terribly and he became very angry.

4 JONAH'S ANGER WITH GOD'S MERCY

4:6. Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and **Jonah was very happy about the plant.**



4 JONAH'S ANGER WITH GOD'S MERCY

4:7&8 the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered... and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He despaired of life, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live."



4 JONAH'S ANGER WITH GOD'S MERCY

Jonah 4:9-11



4:9 But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said.

“And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”



“Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. ***I knew that you***

are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³ Now, Lord,

take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”



2 Peter 3:9

4

JONAH'S ANGER WITH GOD'S MERCY

Jonah 4:9-11



Notice that ***Jonah is as lost as the Ninevites.*** Jonah is more concerned with others rebellion than **his own.**

Can you relate?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

SALVATION
THROUGH
JUDGMENT AND
MERCY

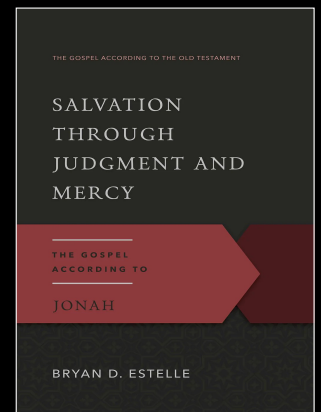
THE GOSPEL
ACCORDING TO

JONAH

BRYAN D. ESTELLE

One of Jonah's quintessential problems is that he has forgotten God's mercy towards him. Jonah is suffering from a memory power problem. He too has experienced God's mercy, but now he is ill equipped to appreciate God's mercy when he observes it exercised on someone else's behalf. The irony of the story is clear "Jonah now desires to die on account of God's gracious and compassionate nature. Had he himself not benefited from these very attributes, when confronted with his own death in chapter two?"

- *Salvation Through Judgement and Mercy* by Bryan D. Estelle pg.126





Instagram



43 MINUTES AGO



[dailykeller](#)

The more
you rejoice in your
own forgiveness,
the quicker you will be
to forgive others.
— Tim Keller



communion

