

Chinese Simplified

其他书籍

约纳先知书

前言

《约纳先知书》非常简短，且容易使人产生误解，但是却又非常出名。很多人都把它作为历史书来阅读，当然他们最终会发现这部书中有很多让人难以置信的记述，甚至有些描述荒谬之极。

另有一些人把约纳作为一位真实的历史人物，而将这部书归到先知书的行列。

其实，这部书只是一部充满冒险和传奇色彩的小说，完全是虚构的，但是它却带有鲜明的宗教信息，那就是表现天主的美善，因为祂关心每个人的生命。天主在惩罚人之前，特别告知人类，为的是不惩罚任何人。约纳是祂的代言人，尽管约纳不太称职，但是天主就是用他来传布这信息，使人们了解并体验天主的宽恕。

1 雅威对阿米泰的儿子约纳说：

2 “你去那气派的尼尼微城，在那儿宣道训诲，因为他们已罪恶滔天。”

3 但约纳决定躲开雅威，就动身去塔尔史士。他来到约培，找到去塔尔史士的船，买票上船后，就与大家同向塔尔史士出发。他以为这样就可以远远地躲开雅威。

4 雅威却令海上起了风暴，海上风浪怒吼，船眼看就要沉没了。

5 水手们个个惊惶失措，纷纷向自己的神明哭喊求救，为了减轻船的重量，他们又把货物抛进海里。

6 这时约纳已在船中睡熟了，船长来到他身边，说：

“你怎么还能睡得着？快起来求求你的神明吧！那神或许会可怜我们，使我们免于死！”

7 水手们彼此商议说：

“来，抽签吧，看是谁惹下了大祸！”

English

OTHER BOOKS

JONAH

Introduction

The book of Jonah is so brief, so well known and so misunderstood; and it has given rise to many false interpretations. Some, naively, read it as history, and of course they find it unbelievable and even ridiculous.

Others include it among the Prophets as if dealing with a personage that really existed.

The book of Jonah is a novel about adventures, completely fictitious, with a religious, moralizing intention: its thesis is to show God's goodness, who is worried about each person's life. It is a God that threatens and announces his punishments with the aim of not having to punish anybody. Jonah is his speaker, a person who is not worthy of that mission, neither, in his mediocrity, capable of understanding the forgiving heart of God.

1¹The word of Yahweh came to Jonah, son of Amittai:

2—Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach against it, because I have known its wickedness.

3³But Jonah decided to flee from Yahweh and go to Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, found a ship bound for Tarshish, and paid the fare. Then he boarded it and went into the hold of the ship, journeying with them to Tarshish, far away from Yahweh.

4⁴Yahweh stirred up a storm wind on the sea, so there was a sea tempest, which threatened to destroy the ship.

5⁵The sailors took fright, and each cried out to his own god. To lighten the ship, they threw its cargo into the sea.

6⁶Meanwhile Jonah had gone into the hold of the ship, where he lay fast asleep. The captain came upon him and said:

—How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god. Perhaps he will be mindful of us and will not allow us to die here.

7⁷The sailors said to each other:

—Let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this disaster.

大家就抽签，结果约纳抽中了。

8 众人就问约纳：

“原来是你招来这场大祸！你从哪里来？是哪个国家的？属哪个民族？”

9 约纳告诉大家说：

“我是希伯来人，我敬畏的神叫雅威，他是大地与海洋的创造者，是天上之主。”

10 后来大家了解到约纳是在躲避雅威，水手们都惊恐万状，对约纳说：

“你怎么能做这种事？”

11 现在我们该怎样处置你，大海才会平静下来呢？”

这时海里的风浪更汹涌了。

12 约纳说：

“把我抬起来，扔进海中，大海就会平静。因为我知道，这场风暴是因我而来的。”

13 但是众水手仍尽力摇橹，想把船摇回岸边，可是因为这时的大海已波涛翻滚，他们怎么做也做不到，14 只好呼求雅威说：

“雅威，求你不要因这人的性命而毁了我们，不要让我们承担无辜人的血债。雅威，这是你想做的，我们按你的意愿做了。”

15 他们把约纳投入海中，怒吼的海立即平静了。16 看了这景象，大家都对雅威极生敬畏之心，他们向雅威祭献，并许下誓言。

2 1 雅威命一条大鱼把约纳吞了下去，约纳在鱼腹中躲避了三天三夜。

2 约纳在鱼腹中，向他的天主雅威祈祷：

3 “我在忧患中向雅威哭求，
他就应答我。

在地府深处，我呼喊求救，
你听到了我的呼叫。

4 是你把我抛入深海中，
到了海心深处，
海洋的潜流包围着我，

So they did, and the lot fell on Jonah.

8 They questioned him:

—So you are responsible for this evil that has come upon us? Tell us where you are from. What is your country, your nationality?

9 And Jonah told them his story:

—I am a Hebrew and I worship Yahweh, God of heaven who made the sea and the land.

10 As they knew that he was fleeing from Yahweh, the sailors were seized with great fear and said to him:

—What a terrible thing have you done!

11 —What shall we do with you now to make the sea calm down?

The sea was growing more and more agitated.

12 He said to them:

—Pick me up and throw me into the sea. It will quiet down, for I know it is because of me that this storm has come.

13 The sailors, however, still did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea had grown much rougher than before. 14 Then they called on Yahweh:

—O Yahweh, do not let us perish for taking this man's life. Do not hold us guilty of shedding innocent blood. For you, Yahweh, have done this as you have thought right.

15 They took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm again. 16 At this the men were seized with great fear of Yahweh. They offered a sacrifice to Yahweh and made vows to him.

2 1 Yahweh provided a large fish which swallowed Jonah. He remained in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights.

2 From the belly of the fish Jonah prayed to Yahweh, his God:

3 —In my distress I cried to Yahweh,
and he answered me;

from the belly of the netherworld
you heard my voice when I called.

4 You cast me into the abyss,
into the very heart of the sea,
and the currents swirled about me;
all your breakers and your billows

你的波涛和巨浪淹没了我。

5 我就想：

你把我抛到远方，
我将不能再仰望你的圣殿。

6 大水已淹没了我，
我眼前漆黑一片，
海草缠住我的脑袋，

7 我下沉直到礁石的最底层，
地府的门在我上面关闭，
我的主，雅威，是你把我救出深渊。

8 我气息奄奄时，
记起了你雅威，
我的祈祷上升到你的圣殿。

9 凡拜无用的偶像的人，
会失去你的恩宠。

10 至于我，我要以赞歌向你作祭献，
凡我许下的誓愿，
我必尽力实现。

真正的救赎来自天主，雅威。”

11 雅威命大鱼把约纳吐到岸上。

3 1 雅威再次传话给约纳：

2 “你应去气派的尼尼微城，在那里宣讲我启示你的话。”

3 约纳这次顺从了雅威的指示，动身去了尼尼微。尼尼微城气势宏伟，用三天时间才能穿越整座城池。4 约纳走了一整天，开始训诲城中居民：“还有四十天，尼尼微就要毁灭了。”

尼尼微的皈依

5 城中人信了天主，立即宣布禁食，城中不论大小都身披苦衣。

6 尼尼微王也听说了这事，立即走下宝座，脱去皇服，披上苦衣，坐到灰土里。7 他又在尼尼微城传达圣旨：

“以国王与王族的名义，命城中人、畜及牛羊，不可吃任何东西，无论是食物还是水。8 让人与牲畜都披上苦衣。人们要高声呼求天主，改弃自

passed over engulfing me.

5 Then I thought:

I have been cast out from your presence,
but I keep on looking to your holy Temple.

6 The waters engulfed me up to my throat;
all around me was the abyss;
wrapped about my head were seaweeds.

7 I went down to the roots of the mountains,
the bars of the netherworld closed upon me,
but you brought my life up from the pit,
Yahweh, my God.

8 When my soul was fainting within me,
I remembered Yahweh,
and before you rose my prayer
up to your holy Temple.

9 Those who worship worthless idols
lose your grace

10 but I, with songs of praise,
will offer to you sacrifices.
What I have vowed, I will make good—
deliverance comes from Yahweh, my God.

11 Then Yahweh gave his command to the fish, and it belched out Jonah onto dry land.

3 1 The word of Yahweh came to Jonah a second time:

2—Go to Nineveh, the great city, and announce to them the message I give you.

3 In obedience to the word of Yahweh, Jonah went to Nineveh. It was a very large city, and it took three days just to cross it. 4 So Jonah walked a single day's journey and began proclaiming:

—Forty days more and Nineveh will be destroyed.

5 The people of the city believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

6 Upon hearing the news, the king of Nineveh got up from his throne, took off his royal robe, put on sackcloth and sat down in ashes. 7 He issued a proclamation throughout Nineveh:

—By the decree of the king and his nobles, no people or beasts, herd or flock, will taste anything; neither will they eat nor drink. 8 But let people and beasts be

己的邪恶，停止暴力。9 谁知道呢？天主或许会回心转意，收回烈怒，饶过我们的性命。”

10 天主看见他们的行动，又见他们弃绝了邪路，就心发慈悲没有按原计划毁灭尼尼微城。

主爱广博

4 1 可是约纳见此却很不高兴，心中十分怨恨。2 他向雅威祈祷，说：“哎，雅威，我还在自己的国家时不就说过这话吗？为此我逃往塔尔史士，因为我知道你慈悲宽仁，不轻易动怒，满心慈爱，不愿降灾祸。3 雅威，现在我求你拿走我的性命，我活着倒不如死了好。”

4 可是雅威回答说：“你有什么理由生气呢？”

5 约纳就出了城，来到东面，在那里为自己搭了个棚子，他坐在棚下，想看看尼尼微到底会出什么事。6 雅威让一株蓖麻长过约纳的头顶，为他遮阳，减轻他的烦恼。约纳十分喜欢这株蓖麻。

7 但是第二天天刚亮，天主派了一条虫来咬这植物，蓖麻就枯萎了。8 太阳升起后，主又安排了酷热的东风，太阳热辣辣地直照约纳的头，他开始晕眩，就又求主让他快点儿死去，说：

“我觉着死更舒服些。”

9 雅威问约纳：

“你觉得有理由为这株蓖麻生气吗？”

约纳回答道：

“我有足够的理由生气求死。”

10 雅威说：

“对于这株你从未付诸辛劳的蓖麻，你尚且如此关心，它不过是朝生暮死的植物罢了！11 尼尼微城中有一十二万稀里糊涂、不分青红皂白的居民，他们还有许多牲畜，难道我不该怜悯这样一座大城吗？”

covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call aloud to God, turn from his evil ways and violence. 9Who knows? God may yet relent, turn from his fierce anger and spare us.

10When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened upon them.

4 1But Jonah was greatly displeased at this, and he was indignant. 2He prayed to Yahweh and said:

—O Yahweh, is this not what I said when I was yet in my own country? This is why I fled to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and full of love, and you relent from imposing terrible punishment. 3I beseech you now, Yahweh, to take my life, for now it is better for me to die than to live.

4But Yahweh replied:

—What right have you to be angry?

5Jonah then left the city. He went to a place east of it, built himself a shelter and sat under its shade to wait and see what would happen to Nineveh. 6Then Yahweh God provided a castor—oil plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade over his head and to ease his discomfort. Jonah was very happy about the plant.

7But the next day, at dawn, God sent a worm which attacked the plant and made it wither. 8When the sun rose, God sent a scorching east wind; the sun blazed down upon Jonah's head, and he grew faint. His death wish returned and he said:

—It is better for me to die than to live.

9Then God asked Jonah:

—Do you have a right to be angry about the castor oil plant?

Jonah answered:

—I am right to be angry enough to wish to die.

10Yahweh said:

—You are concerned about a plant which cost you no labor to make it grow. Overnight it sprang up, and overnight it perished. 11But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot distinguish right from left and they have many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned for such a great city?