



JONAH

HEART OF DARKNESS

Recap

The book of Jonah is one of the few books that make Christians uncomfortable and gives others reason to scoff

The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: “Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. **Announce my judgment against it** because I have seen how wicked its people are.”

Jonah 1:1-2

Recap

The Christianity of the Bible is a religion that is uncompromisingly supernatural. If we take away the supernatural, we take away Christianity. At the heart of the worldview of both Testaments is the idea that the realm of nature is created by One who transcends that nature. That God Himself is “supra” or above and beyond the created universe.

Recap

Your Faith is Supernatural

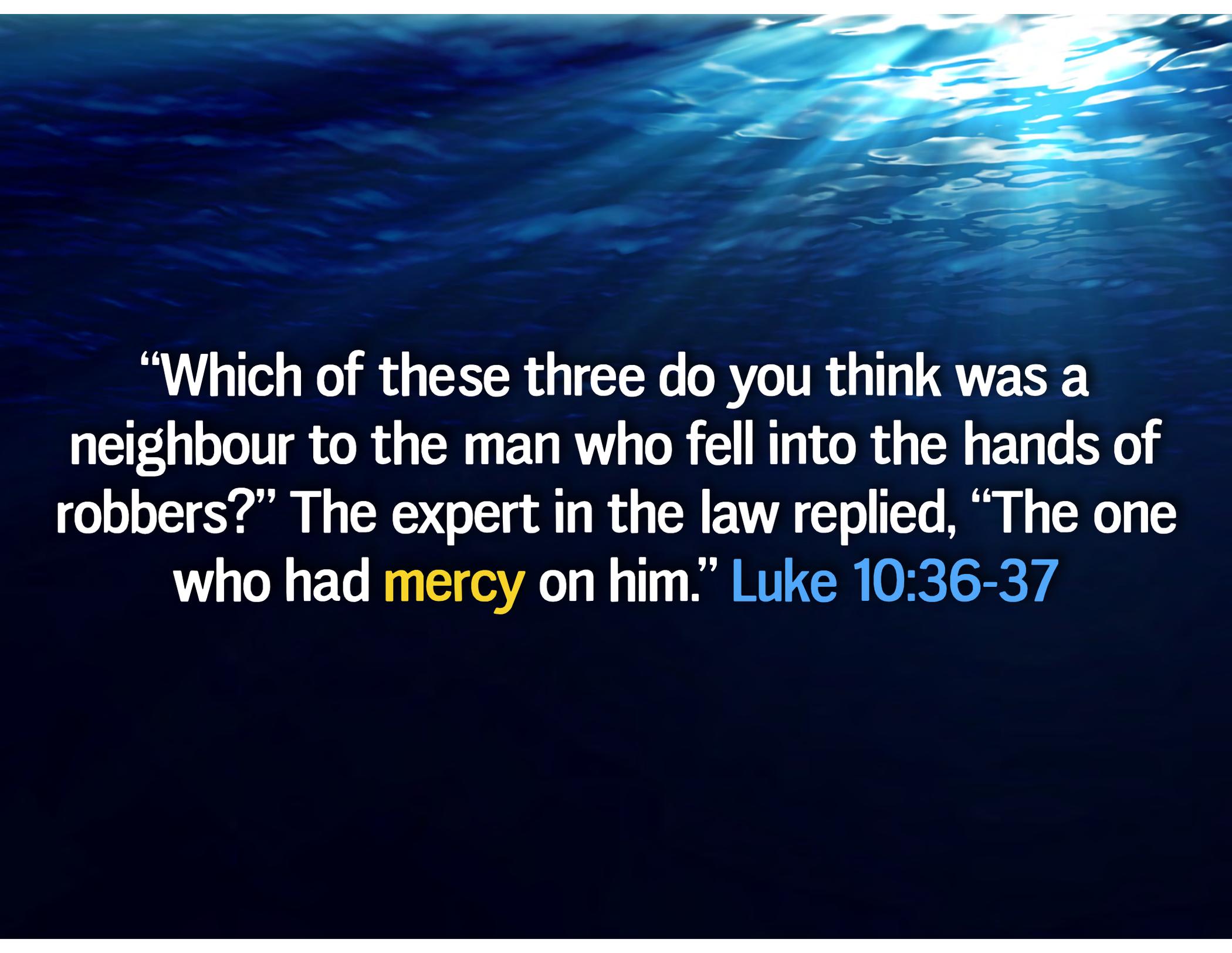
Jesus said, “**My kingdom is not of this world.** If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.” [John 18:38](#)

Your God is Supernatural

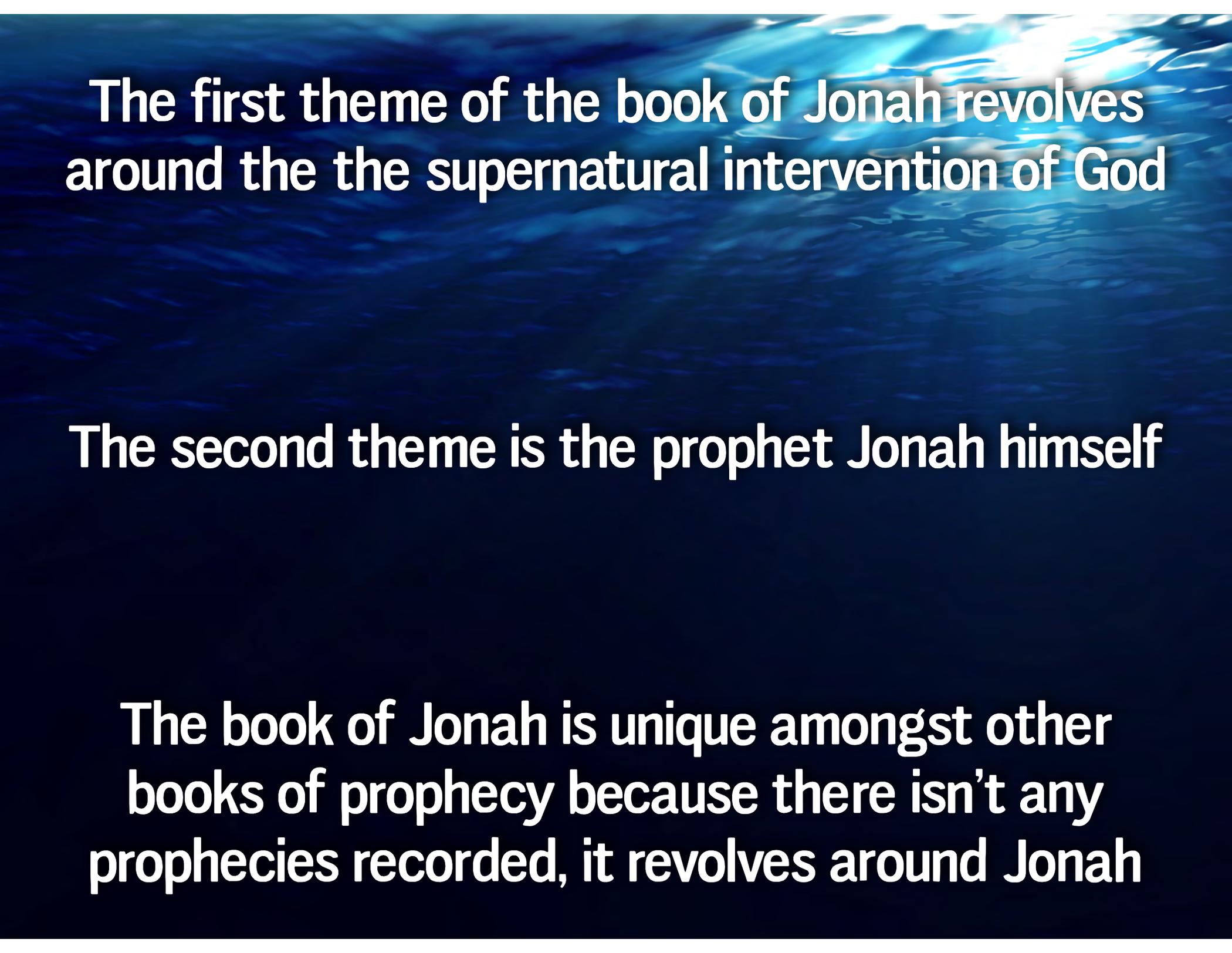
“To whom will you compare me? Or **who is my equal?**” says the Holy One. [Isaiah 40:25](#)

Your Future is Supernatural

If there is a natural body, there is also **a spiritual body.**
[1 Corinthians 15:44](#)

The background of the slide is an underwater scene. Sunlight filters down from the surface, creating a shimmering, ethereal glow. The water is a deep, vibrant blue, with ripples and bubbles visible. The light rays create a sense of depth and tranquility.

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The expert in the law replied, “The one who had **mercy on him.” **Luke 10:36-37****



The first theme of the book of Jonah revolves around the the supernatural intervention of God

The second theme is the prophet Jonah himself

The book of Jonah is unique amongst other books of prophecy because there isn't any prophecies recorded, it revolves around Jonah

Run Jonah Run

Why did Jonah run?

The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and **preach against it**, because its wickedness has come up before me.” **Jonah 1:1-2**

The answer may surprise you

Run Jonah Run

So they asked him, “Tell us, **who is responsible for making all this trouble for us?** What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?” **1:8**

He answered, “I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, **who made the sea and the dry land.**” **vs 9**

“**Pick me up and throw me into the sea,**” he replied, “and it will become calm. **I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you.**” **vs 12**

Run Jonah Run

Then they cried out to the Lord, “Please, Lord, do not let us die for **taking this man’s life**. Do not hold us accountable for **killing an innocent man**, for you, Lord, have done as you pleased.” **vs 14**

Jonah's Prayer/God's Crucible

From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God. **Jonah 2:1**

In my **distress** I called to the Lord, and he answered me. **vs 2**

I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; **yet I will look again** toward your holy temple. **vs 4**

When my life was ebbing away, I **remembered you**, Lord, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple. **vs 7**

Jonah's Black Heart

Jonah loved God and his people (Israelites). He didn't care for the world around him and for God's plan for humanity. He had drawn a line in the sand for whom he loved.

What Jonah Knew

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord, “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.** Now, Lord, take away my life, for **it is better for me to die than to live.**” 4:1-3

God's Heart

The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and **preach** against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” **Jonah 1:1-2**

Qara': to call, cry, utter a loud sound, to call unto, cry (for help), call (with name of God), to summon, invite, call for, call and commission, appoint, call and endow

God's Heart

Get up and **call** on your god! **1:6**

In my distress I **called** to the Lord **2:1**

Let everyone **call** urgently on God. **3:6**

I **call** out to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy mountain. **Psalms 3:4**

Hear my voice when I **call**, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me. **Psalms 27:7**

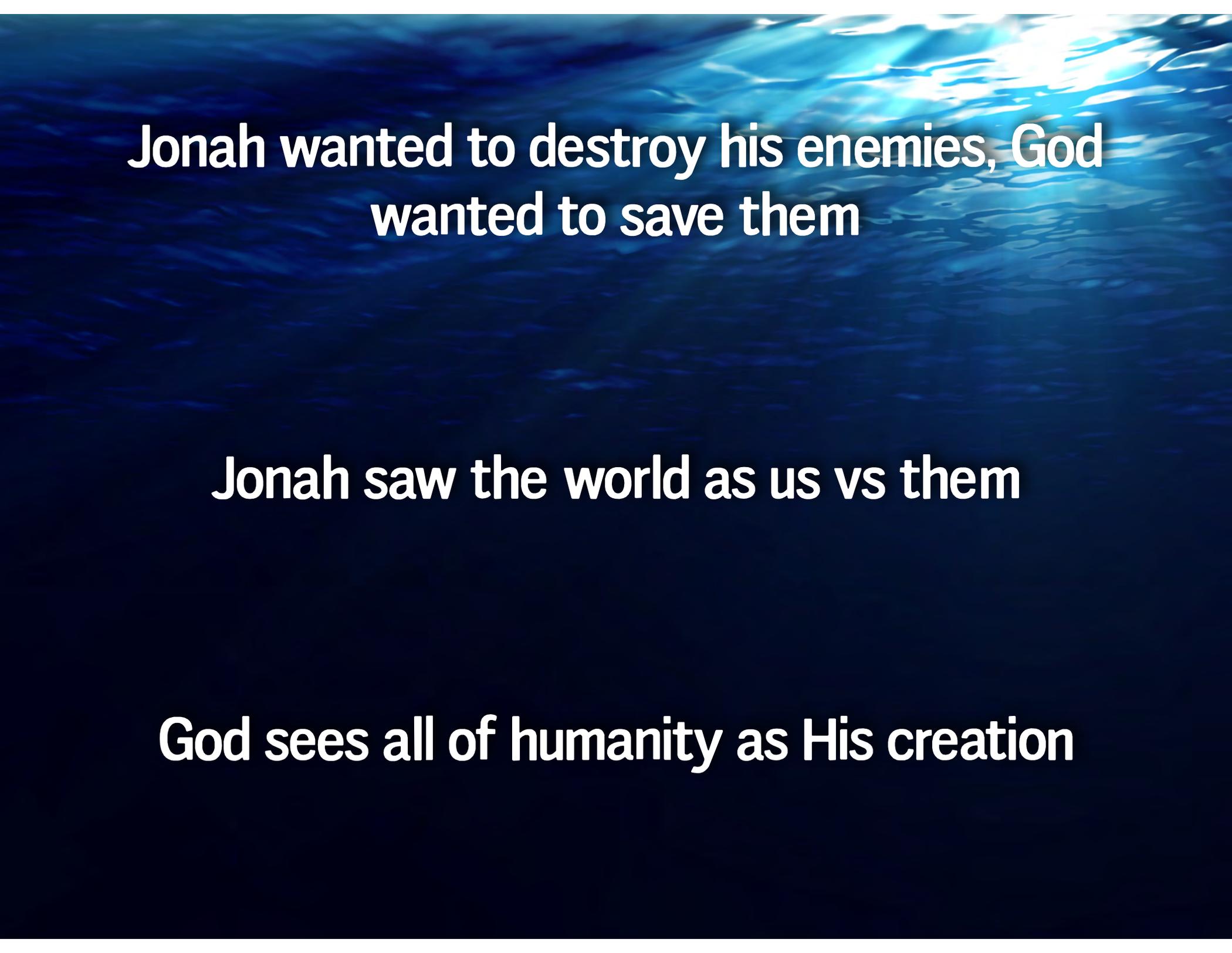
Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the Lord has **helped** us." **1 Samuel 7:12**

Afterward you will be **called** the City of Righteousness, the Faithful City." **Isaiah 1:26b**

God didn't ask Jonah to judge the Ninevites, but to point them towards a loving relationship. To call to God for mercy.

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, **not wanting anyone to perish**, but everyone to come to repentance. **2 Peter 3:9**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but **to save the world through him**. **John 3:16-17**



**Jonah wanted to destroy his enemies, God
wanted to save them**

Jonah saw the world as us vs them

God sees all of humanity as His creation

If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? **Do not even pagans do that?**

Matthew 5:46-47

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, **love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you**, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. **Matthew 5:43-44**

For the **entire law** is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbour as yourself.”

Galatians 5:14