

The Unfortunate End To The Story

Jonah 4:1–11 (NLT) — (1) This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry. (2) So he complained to the LORD about it: “Didn’t I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people. (3) Just kill me now, LORD! I’d rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen.” (4) The LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry about this?” (5) Then Jonah went out to the east side of the city and made a shelter to sit under as he waited to see what would happen to the city. (6) And the LORD God arranged for a leafy plant to grow there, and soon it spread its broad leaves over Jonah’s head, shading him from the sun. This eased his discomfort, and Jonah was very grateful for the plant. (7) But God also arranged for a worm! The next morning at dawn the worm ate through the stem of the plant so that it withered away. (8) And as the sun grew hot, God arranged for a scorching east wind to blow on Jonah. The sun beat down on his head until he grew faint and wished to die. “Death is certainly better than living like this!” he exclaimed. (9) Then God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry because the plant died?” “Yes,” Jonah retorted, “even angry enough to die!” (10) Then the LORD said, “You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there. It came quickly and died quickly. (11) But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn’t I feel sorry for such a great city?”

I) Jonah Is Asked A Disturbing Question

Revelation 3:19 (NLT) — (19) I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference.

II) Jonah Departs The City

Proverbs 13:15 (NLT) — (15) A person with good sense is respected; a treacherous person is headed for destruction.

III) Jonah Is Temporality Delivered From The Heat

Colossians 3:2 (NLT) — (2) Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

IV) Jonah’s Shade Is Destroyed

V) Jonah Desires Death

Psalms 31:14–15 (NLT) — (14) But I am trusting you, O LORD, saying, “You are my God!” (15) My future is in your hands. Rescue me from those who hunt me down relentlessly.

VI) Jonah’s Unbelievable Declaration

Matthew 18:32–33 (NLT) — (32) Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. (33) Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’

Luke 15:25–28 (NLT) — (25) “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, (26) and he asked one of the servants what was going on. (27) ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’

(28) “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him,

2 Peter 3:5 (NLT) — (5) They deliberately forget that God made the heavens long ago by the word of his command, and he brought the earth out from the water and surrounded it with water.

VII) Jonah’s Dumb Priorities Are Revealed