Academic Institution

Compare and Contrast Jonah

Purpose Statement

By

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The Holy Bible is full of stories from the past. These stories are mostly about the incidents that took place with the prophets and messengers that came before the arrival of the Holy Christ. One of such stories or tales is Jonah. Jonah is the real-life account of a prophet, who was sent by God in the Northern area of Israel. The incident is of so much high significance that there is a separate book dedicated to it, which has been further divided into four chapters.

The first chapter starts with the introduction of the prophet, Jonah, and gives the readers knowledge about his mission on Earth. God commanded Jonah to go towards Nineveh, a city that had grown very wicked and disobedient towards HIM, but Jonah did not want to do this so he went towards an opposite direction. It angered God and He ordered a great whale to swallow Jonah.

*“And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights”* (1:17)[[1]](#footnote-1).

The second chapter has been written in the form of a psalm, in which Jonah calls to God from the depths of the oceans to help him out.

The third fourth chapters of Jonah are different in a way from the first two chapters that in the first two chapters are about disobedience and highlight God’s angry side, but the third and fourth chapter describe the retreat of the prophet, back to the orders of God and obeying HIM. The third and fourth chapters also lay emphasis on the softer aspects of God’s nature, like being benevolent and merciful.

*Then the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them”* (3:5)[[2]](#footnote-2).

*“...knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in* lovingkindness, *and one who relents concerning calamity”* (4:2) [[3]](#footnote-3).

**Bibliography**

Collins, John Joseph. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004.

1. Collins, John Joseph. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Collins, John Joseph. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Collins, John Joseph. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)