

JONAH AND REPENTANCE

- 1) What is repentance?
- 2) Examples of repentance in the Bible.
- 3) What is the role of repentance in Jonah?
- 4) What does repentance mean for us?
- 5) Questions?

By John Williamson

ACTS 2:38

Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

ACTS 2:38

Question: Why did Peter say they needed to repent to receive the Holy Spirit?

Answer: Wait for it.

WHAT IS REPENTANCE? - DEFINITIONS

1. to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one's life
2. **a:** to feel regret or contrition
b: to change one's mind

~Merriam-Webster Dictionary

WHAT IS REPENTANCE? – HEBREW & GREEK

- "Shuv" (שׁוּב) - to turn, to return, to repent
- "Metanoeo" (μετανοέω) - to change one's mind or purpose, to repent

WHAT IS REPENTANCE? - EXAMPLES

Cursed is the ground because of you;

In toil you will eat of it

All the days of your life.

“Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;

And you will eat the plants of the field;

By the sweat of your face

You will eat bread,

Till you return to the ground,

Because from it you were taken;

For you are dust,

And to dust you shall return.”

~Genesis 3:17b-19

WHAT IS REPENTANCE? - EXAMPLES

and the water receded steadily from the earth, and at the end of one hundred and fifty days the water decreased.

~Genesis 8:3

WHAT IS REPENTANCE? - EXAMPLES

“So it shall be when all of these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call *them* to mind in all nations where the LORD your God has banished you, and you return to the LORD your God and obey Him with all your heart and soul according to all that I command you today, you and your sons, then the LORD your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you. ~Deuteronomy 30:1-3

WHAT IS REPENTANCE? - EXAMPLES

Then it came about, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the sons of Israel again played the harlot with the Baals, and made Baal-berith their god. Thus the sons of Israel did not remember the LORD their God, who had delivered them from the hands of all their enemies on every side

~Judges 8:33-34

WHAT IS REPENTANCE? - EXAMPLES

For thus the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, has said,

“In repentance and rest you will be saved,
In quietness and trust is your strength.”
But you were not willing,

~Isaiah 30:15

WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

Question: Does the Biblical term for repentance ("Shuv" שׁוּב) mean to feel contrition or to be sorry?

Answer: No. Not even a little bit.

WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

Question: So what does repentance mean in a Biblical sense?

Answer: To turn/return, physically or mentally.

JONAH - OVERVIEW CHAPTER 1

- 1) God's word comes to Jonah (1:1)
- 2) Jonah rejects the word of the LORD (1:3)
- 3) God judges Jonah (1:4)
 - a) God's word comes to the sailors through Jonah (1:12)
 - b) The sailors reject the word of the Lord (1:13)
 - c) God judges the sailors (1:13)
 - d) The sailors repent (1:14)
 - e) God forgives & relents concerning judgment (1:15)
 - f) The sailors feared, sacrificed to & praised God (1:16)

JONAH - OVERVIEW CHAPTERS 2-3

- 1) Jonah repents (2:1-9)
- 2) God forgives & relents concerning judgment (2:10)
- 3) God's word comes to Jonah, and he obeys (3:1-3)
 - A. God's word comes to Nineveh through Jonah (3:4)
 - B. Nineveh repents (3:5-9)
 - c. God forgives & relents concerning judgment (3:10)

JONAH - OVERVIEW CHAPTER 4

- 1) Jonah rejects God's forgiveness of Nineveh & goes east of the city in hopes to see it destroyed (4:1-5)
- 2) God shows grace to Jonah through the plant (4:6)
- 3) God judges Jonah through the worm & wind (4:7-8)
- 4) God reasons with Jonah to repent (4:9-11)

JONAH – WHAT DISOBEYS IN JONAH?

- 1) 1:2 – Nineveh disobeys (“their wickedness has come up before me”)
- 2) 1:3 – Jonah disobeys God concerning Going to Nineveh
- 3) 1:13 - The sailors disobey the word of the Lord (via the prophet) by refusing to throw Jonah overboard.
- 4) 4:1 – Jonah is angry (disobedient) with God concerning His compassion

JONAH – WHAT OBEYS IN JONAH?

- 1) 1:17 – The great fish
- 2) 4:6 – The plant
- 3) 4:7 – The worm
- 4) 4:8 – The scorching east wind

JONAH – WHAT REPENTS IN JONAH?

- 1) 1:15 – The sailors repent and throw Jonah overboard
- 2) 3:3 – Jonah repents and goes to Nineveh
- 3) 3:5-9 – Nineveh repents of its wickedness
- 4) ??? – Jonah repents of his anger at God's compassion

REPENTANCE AFTER THE GOSPELS

- 1) Acts 2:38
- 2) Acts 3:19
- 3) Acts 8:22
- 4) Acts 17:30
- 5) Acts 26:20
- 6) 2 Cor. 12:21
- 7) Rev 2:5, 16, 21, 22 & 3:3, 19
- 8) Rev 9:20-21, 16:9, 11

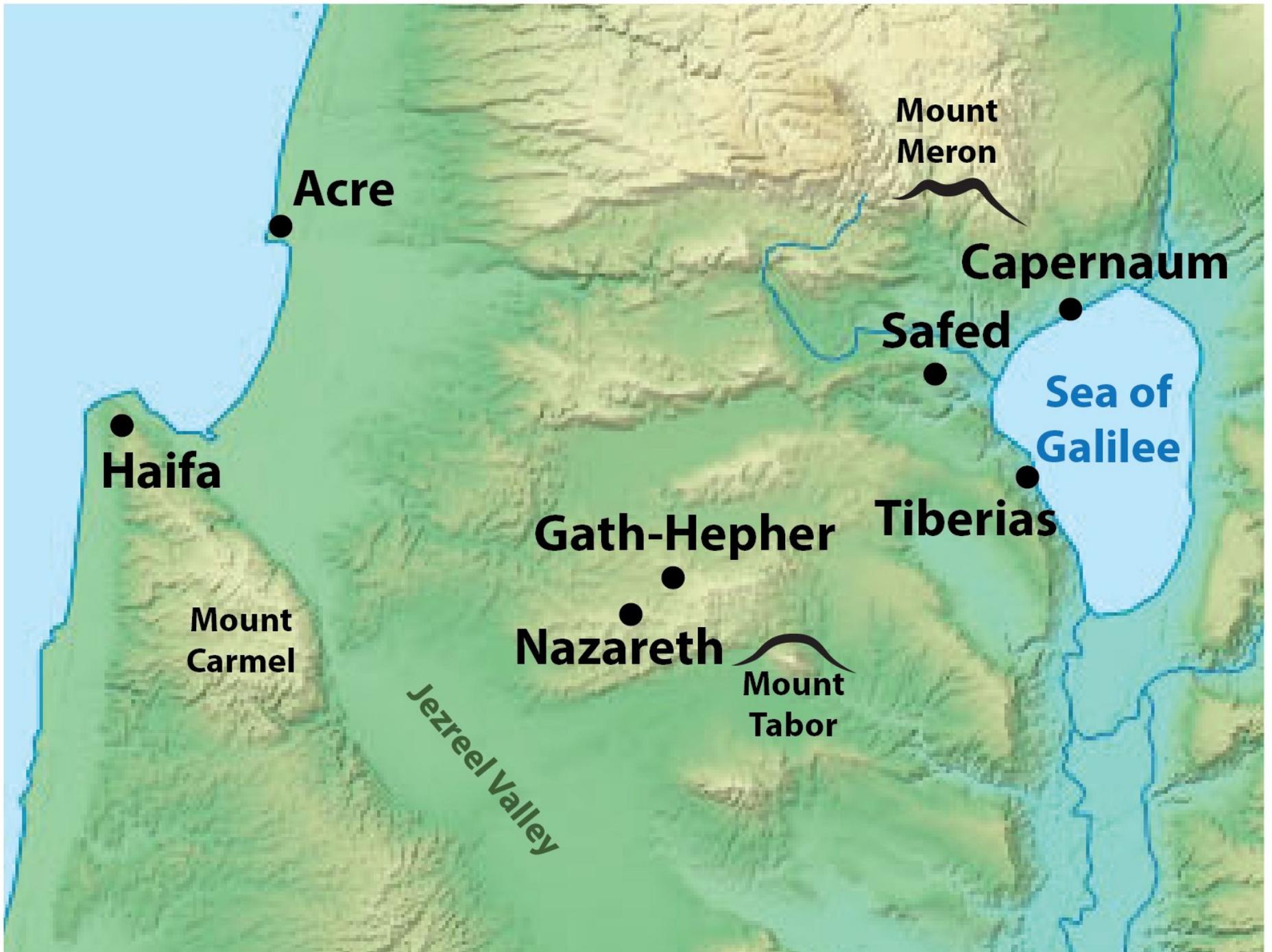
ACTS 2:38

Question: Why did Peter say they needed to repent to receive the Holy Spirit?

Answer: They need to repent (turn) about considering Jesus as the Messiah, the King of Israel.

2 KINGS 14: 23-26

In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel became king in Samaria, *and reigned* forty-one years. He did evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin. He restored the border of Israel from the entrance of Hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, which He spoke through His servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was of Gath-hepher.



Acre

**Mount
Meron**

Capernaum

Safed

**Sea of
Galilee**

Haifa

Tiberias

Gath-Hepher

**Mount
Carmel**

Nazareth

**Mount
Tabor**

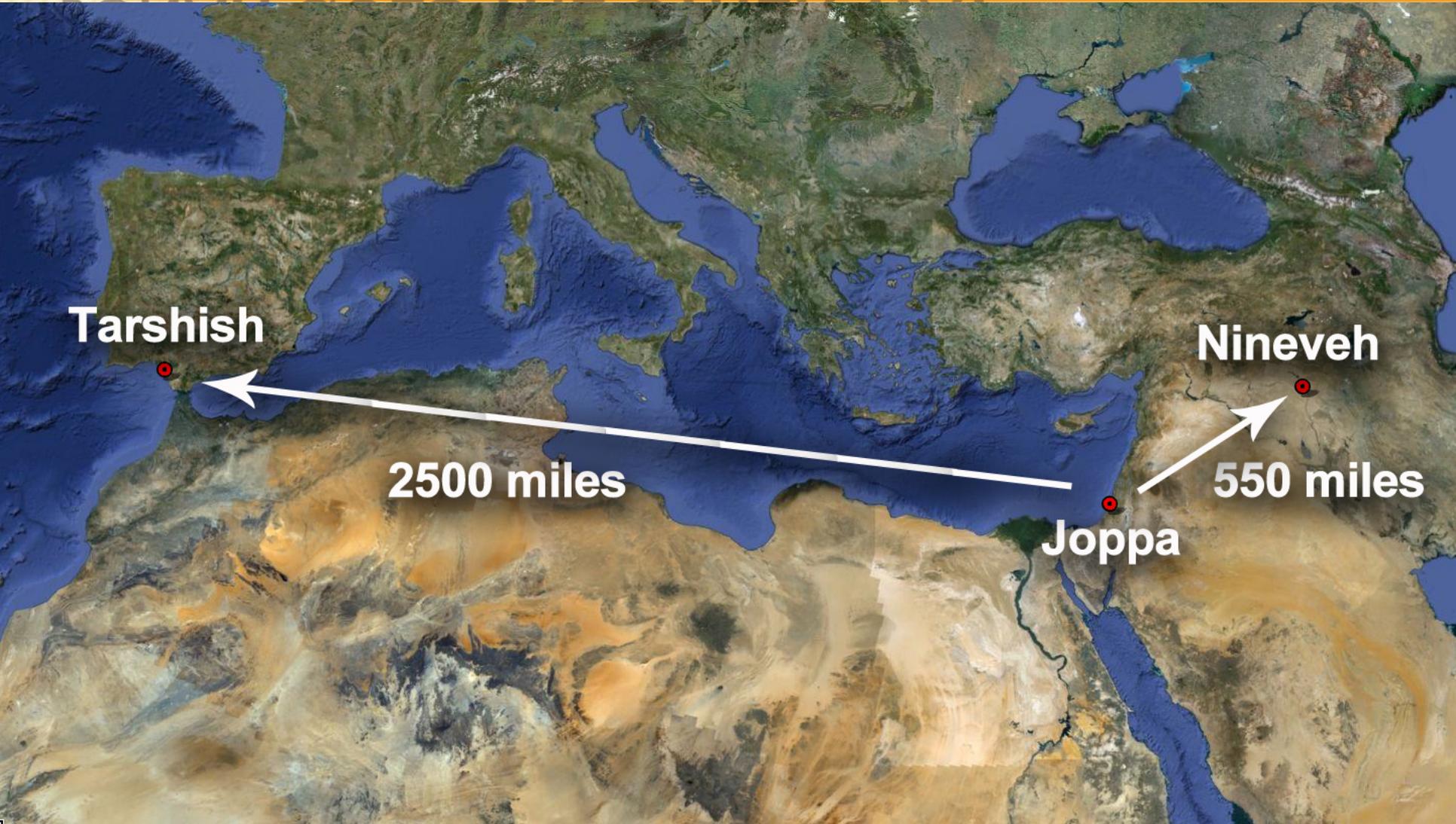
Jezreel Valley

Israel and Judah at the Time of Jeroboam II
786–746 BCE

- Israel
- Judah



JONAH GOES THE OTHER WAY



Tarshish

2500 miles

Nineveh

550 miles

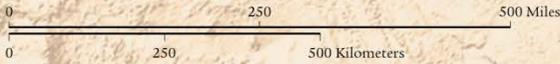
Joppa

GENESIS 10:8-12

Now Cush became the father of Nimrod; he became a mighty one on the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, “Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD.” The beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. From that land he went forth into Assyria, and built Nineveh and Rehoboth-Ir and Calah, and Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.

THE ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

- City
- ◉ Jerusalem/Judah is a free zone within Assyria
- Core of Assyria (time of Assur-uballit I - c. 1350 BC)
- Expansion of Adad-nirari I (c. 1300 BC)
- Expansion of Tukulti-ninurta I (c. 1225 BC)
- Expansion of Ashurnasirpal II (c. 875 BC)
- Expansion of Shalmaneser III (c. 850 BC)
- Expansions of Tiglath-pileser III (c. 735 BC)
- Expansions of Sargon II (c. 720 BC) and Sennacherib (c. 700 BC)
- Expansions of Esarhaddon (c. 675 BC)
- Expansion of Ashurbanipal (c. 650 BC)



Bronze relief from Balwat: Shows 3 spikes each with 8 male heads standing like a totem pole



ASHURNASIRPAL, KING OF ASSYRIA

“I flayed as many nobles as had rebelled against me [and] draped their skins over the pile [of corpses]; some I spread out within the pile, some I erected on stakes upon the pile ... I flayed many right through my land [and] draped their skins over the walls.”

Bronze relief from Balwat: Severed heads hang from the walls of Kulisi as flames devour the city. A dismembered prisoner is impaled on a stake and an Assyrian soldier grasps the hand of a captive missing his other extremities. Notice the dismembered hands and feet.



ASHURNASIRPAL, KING OF ASSYRIA

“I felled 50 of their fighting men with the sword, burnt 200 captives from them, [and] defeated in a battle on the plain 332 troops. ...With their blood I dyed the mountain red like red wool, [and] the rest of them the ravines [and] torrents of the mountain swallowed. I carried off captives [and] possessions from them. I cut off the heads of their fighters [and] built [therewith] a tower before their city. I burnt their adolescent boys [and] girls.”

Relief of the
Siege of
Lachish from
the palace of
Sennacherib:
Jewish soldiers,
defenders of
Lachish, are
executed by
being impaled
on spikes.
Notice the
prisoners are
handcuffed and
naked.



From the Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III: Captioned “The tribute of Jehu, son of Omri” This occurred in 841 BC. Jehu, King of Israel is prostrate before the Assyrian King Shalmaneser III.



ASHURNASIRPAL, KING OF ASSYRIA

“In strife and conflict I besieged [and] conquered the city. I felled 3,000 of their fighting men with the sword ...I captured many troops alive: I cut off of some their arms [and] hands; I cut off of others their noses, ears, [and] extremities. I gouged out the eyes of many troops. I made one pile of the living [and] one of heads. I hung their heads on trees around the city.”

Relief of the Siege of Lachish from the palace of Sennacherib:
Two naked Jewish prisoners are being flayed alive by Assyrian soldiers, meanwhile (left) Jews, witnessing the torture, are being deported as slaves.

