



Prophet Prophesying Eternal Life



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To most, Jonah is but a prophet who ran away from the Lord. This is something nobody could ignore, but there is another side to this situation which should not be ignored. He was the only prophet, at that time, which the Lord sent to witness to a pagan country, Nineveh, capital of Assyria. Jonah realized through prophecy that the salvation of the Gentiles would come only as a result of Israel's refusing the faith, and he could not accept such a mission, so he ran away from the service, not out of hatred for the Gentiles but out of fear for his own. He might have realized through prophecy's shadow what St. Paul proclaimed about Israel: "...through their fall...salvation has come to the Gentiles... their fall is riches for the world" Rom. 11:11-12.



Jonah

Jonah saw Israel as a gourd which shaded him for a while with the law and prophecies, but it withered with the worm of ungratefulness, lack of faith, and treason to the Savior, the Messiah, and that, "...displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he

became angry" [4:1]. His love for Israel which protected him was the reason for his running away from serving the Gentiles and the secret of his great sorrow. Amazingly, God who examines the hearts, transformed this escape - despite what it holds of disobedience - to a Divine order, into a mission and salvation for a different group of Gentiles, i.e. the sailors and the captain who "feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows" [1:16]; after Jonah was thrown in the water and was swallowed by the whale. This became a symbolic act for the salvation of the Gentiles after the Lord Jesus Christ, the new Jonah, was laid in the tomb.

May the Holy Spirit of our God carry us to our true Jonah so that we may see

Him give Himself for us, to be thrown in the tempestuous sea of our lives, taking away its troubles, carrying us with Him, not in the whale, but in His holy tomb to be buried with Him every day and also to rise with Him partaking in His Divine glory. ✠

"Hezekiah the King"

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- Isn't the Glorious Resurrection the sun returning to shine in your life the sun of righteousness?
- Isn't the Glorious Resurrection to be in the House of the LORD and abide in Him and Him in you?

And You, will you arise or still live with the dead, ignoring every chance from GOD to renew your life, refusing any adding to your spiritual age so you can live with the LORD JESUS CHRIST? Isn't the time to end the three days in the tomb and the death so you can come back to the House of the LORD.

Maybe King Hezekiah did not use his chance well, because his last fifteen years were the worst in his life. He showed all

the things that were in his house to the enemy and there was nothing among his treasures that he had not showed them. And the Prophet Isaiah said unto King Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD " **Behold, the days come, that all that is in this house, and unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left**" (*Verse 16,17*). He rose up his son Manasseh to become known as one of the worst kings to reign over the Nation of Israel (*2Kings 21*).

So be wise and use every opportunity you are given. All that is required of us is to pray and cry to the LORD and seek out your father of confession, so he can instill within you spiritual advice for all your weakness and make you stronger so you can arise on that third day rejoicing and enter into the House of the LORD. ✠