

THE SIGN OF THE DOVE

a study in Jonah



Flight of the Dove (Jonah 1) Jonah (= Dove), of Zebulun. His racism and stubborn refusal to preach to the Gentile aggressor Assyria. Conundrum of Jonah's sacrifice: right or wrong? Jonah's flight to Joppa ironically brings salvation to the Gentile sailors, fulfilling Jacob's prophecy

The Education of the Psalms (Jonah 2) Jonah's prayer. Offering thanks for salvation before he is saved! Prayer is constructed wholly from quotations in the Psalms. By considering the context of each quote, an underlying prayer is seen, arguably even more powerful and beautiful than the surface prayer

A Vine and a Worm (Jonah 3-4) Nineveh is forgiven immediately, yet Jonah was 3 days in the fish. "Mercy comes to him who mercy sees." Vine and worm event was an enacted parable from God teaching Jonah the dynamics of God, Jonah and Nineveh in the case of the willing protector (vine) and unwilling one (worm)

Seeing the Sign (Gospels) Lessons from Jonah's subtle appearances in the gospels. Sign of the Dove at Jesus' baptism was the miracle the Pharisees' requested: baptism was their only chance of life. The power of Jonah's 'presumptuous' prayer in saving others

A View to Mercy (Acts) Jonah's realization he was the Temple for those outside covenant promise. Identical realization of Peter: Son of the Dove, precedental NT prophet to the Gentiles. The restoration of Joppa, the city beautiful. We must be the 'view to mercy' for those outside covenant hope

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