

EPISODE NO. 184

Jonah 3:1-10

Nineveh Repented

1 Then Yahweh's Word came to Jonah a second time. It said: 2 "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Preach to them the message that I will tell you."

3 So, Jonah got up and went to Nineveh, according to the instructions of the One Who Is Always Present.

Now Nineveh was a very large city — a 3-day walk. 4 On the first day, Jonah started into the city. This is what he cried out: "In 40 days, Nineveh will be destroyed!"

The People of Nineveh Did Turn Away from Evil

5 The people of Nineveh believed in God. Immediately, they proclaimed a fast. The most important ones and the least important ones all put on rough cloth.

6 Then the news reached even the king of Nineveh. He got up from his throne, laid aside his royal robe, covered himself with rough cloth, and sat in ashes. 7 He issued a proclamation in Nineveh:

"By order of the king and his leaders: 'Do not permit either man or animal, herd or flock, to taste anything! Don't let them eat or drink! 8 Instead, let them — human beings and animals — be covered with rough cloth. The people must call upon the true God earnestly. Yes, let each person turn away from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. 9 Who knows, perhaps the one true God will change His mind and turn away after we have met His terms!? Maybe He will withdraw from His fierce anger, so that we will NOT die?' "

10 The one true God saw their actions when they turned from their evil ways. So, the one true God did change His mind about the disaster which He had declared that He would bring upon them. And, God did NOT carry it out.