

THE GREAT WENCHOSTER BIBLE

Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

10. And God saw the works of the people of the city, that they turned from their naughtiness and evil ways; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them, even unto those that did covet their neighbour's ass and other things besides; and he did it not.

(Chapter 4)

1. But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry, for he much desired to see fire and brimstone fall from heaven, and had already prepared many parchment flyers and tracts to distribute, brushed his teeth, and had booked the Great Hall in the city for an evening rally.
2. And he prayed unto the Lord, and said, O Lord, I told you so, and was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish where there are diverse restaurants of good reputation with several David stars: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.
3. Therefore now, O Lord, I am much miffed. Take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live and become a laughing stock and have many fingers wagging at me and asking if I have had a whale of a time.
4. Then said the Lord, Doest thou well to be angry? Get a grip and grow some, for the mind of the Lord does not revolve around thy limited understanding. For did I not cause thee to be vomited up upon the beach? And you still haven't rinsed off.
5. So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth out of rough timber and palm leaves, and sat under it in the shadow and sulked, till he might see what would become of the city. But in the night there came a mighty wind from the south which blew down the shelter, and in the morning the weather was again calm, the skies cloudless, and the sun shone hot.
6. And the Lord God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd and did exclaim, Good Gourd, I am mightily glad. But the Lord ignored that.
7. But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered, for there were no early birds to catch the worm. And gourd did spill its seed upon the ground where it dried and withered.
8. And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, for he had no hat, and he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, My water-skin is empty, I have no breakfast, not even a locust. It is better for me to die than to live.
9. And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death, for I have no shelter and no provisions, neither bread nor oil to gladden my heart.
10. 1Then said the Lord, Thou art a miserable scrote. Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night, even though this in itself is a miracle:
11. And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than six score thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand nor which either of them are doing; and there are much cattle, and many sheep which doth give sustenance and pleasure unto the people? Think thee on this. And Jonah did consider the ways of the Lord, but remained unconvinced by the argument.